

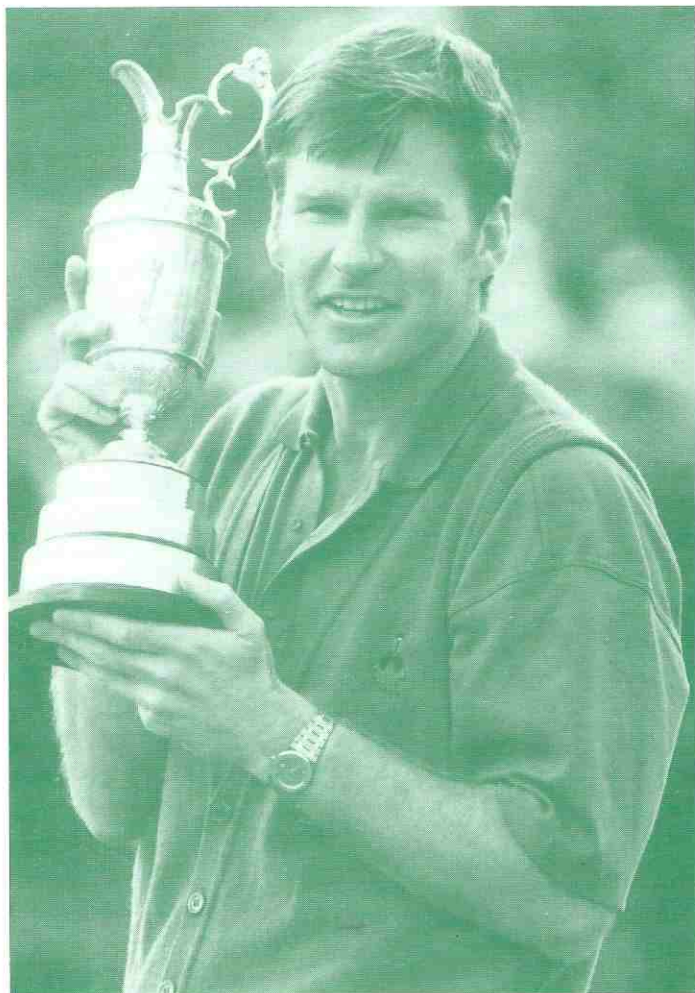


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# From the President

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I consider it a great honour and privilege to have been elected President of the Border Golfers' Association in this their Centenary Year.



May I, on behalf of the Border Golfers' Association, extend a warm welcome to all visitors and guests during our Centenary Celebrations and I trust that you will enjoy the beauty and hospitality of the Borders.

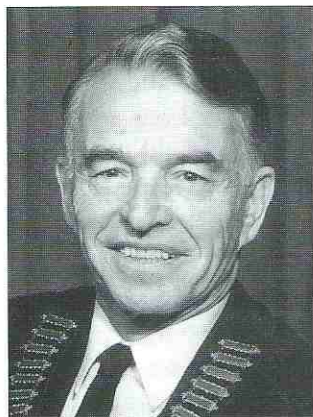
1993 heralds what will be a memorable year in the history of Border golf. Apart from the normal competitions a varied programme of golf and social events has been organised to commemorate this special occasion - none of which would have been possible without the considerable donations from Club Members, Sponsors and Advertisers whom I thank most sincerely for their generosity.

My sincere thanks go to the Centenary Committee and supporters for the enormous effort and overwhelming enthusiasm they have contributed, to ensure 1993 is a truly memorable year for Golf in the Borders.

**Colin Wood**  
President, BGA.

# Foreword from the SGU

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"It is a matter of some pride to me that I, as President of the Scottish Golf Union, have been asked to write a foreword for the Borders Centenary publication.

Like the adolescent, we are continually learning that our fathers were not always wrong and resulting from their efforts, we are the possessors of a heritage of outstanding quality. That heritage is the wonderful game of golf.

In forming the Border Golfers' Association way back in 1893 the administrators of that time showed outstanding foresight. It is indeed a pity that these early visionaries are not with us at this time to accept the acclamation which surely would be their just reward.

The Executive of the Scottish Golf Union, ably led by George Ovens of St. Boswells in 1992, join with me in congratulating all Border Clubs and their members on reaching this historic milestone. May the true joys of golf-sportsmanship, fellowship and friendship - be the constant companions of all Border golfers as they enter the second century of their existence."

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'D.D.F. Rae'. The signature is stylized and fluid.

**D.D.F. Rae**  
President of the SGU



# BGA Centenary Year Sponsor

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We at Pringle of Scotland, as sponsors of the BGA Centenary Year, wish the organisers and all of those who take part in the year's events, a very pleasant, enjoyable and memorable time.

One hundred years is a long time in any organisation's history and much effort has surely gone into the development of golf in the Borders over the years.

I am sure that there are many people to be thankful to by those who enjoy the greens, fairways and facilities today.

Let's hope that the weather will be kind during the Centenary Year.

Graham Hayward  
*Managing Director, Pringle of Scotland.*



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# BGA Officials 1993



## **BGA Council and Centenary Committee**

*Back - L. M. Wallace, Team Captain; G. Mitchell; M. Fraser; K. D. Robertson;  
G. C. Rennie, Centenary Secretary; J. Anderson; J. Scott; B. Lindsay.  
Front - G. C. Rutherford; A. N. Simpson; D. Howden, Vice President;  
C. Wood, President; G. B. Ovens; R.G. Scott, Secretary; J. A. Hume.*



## **BGA Council Committee**

*Back - M. Fraser; G. Mitchell;  
K.D. Robertson; J. Anderson; J. Scott.  
Front - L. M. Wallace; R. G. Scott;  
C. Wood; D. Howden; A. N. Simpson;  
B. Lindsay.*

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## Acknowledgments

Elspeth Burnside, Author, would like to acknowledge the assistance of everyone involved in compiling this book. Jocky Hume, a former Border Champion and BGA President who helped so much with the research and collection of photographs, Ian Macniven, the Golf Correspondent of the Evening News, the club secretaries, the profiled players and administrators, and the compilers of many past publications relating to golf in the Borders. Thanks also to Ros Brown and Helen Darling from the Archives Department of Library Headquarters, Selkirk, Hugh Mackay, from Hawick Library, and the staff of the Southern Reporter, Selkirk.

Designed and Edited by Lewis Design, Galashiels.



# Border Golfers' Association

One hundred years ago, seven clubs joined forces to form the Border Golfers' Association. It was the first development of its kind in Scottish amateur golf.

The 2nd of March, 1893, heralded the birth of the Border Golfers' Association. The union of seven clubs – Hawick, Melrose, Selkirk, Galashiels, Innerleithen, Kelso and Peebles – was the first of its kind in Scottish amateur golf. But where the Borders led, others chose to follow.



*Border Select Side v West of Scotland  
June 18th 1947*

Today, there are 16 member areas of the Scottish Golf Union supporting an extensive programme of international and national tournaments, and an on-going development of coaching schemes at boys, youth and senior level.

With 19 member clubs (two non-course owning), the Borders is one of the smallest of the 16 SGU areas: only

Stirlingshire and Clackmannanshire have fewer course owning members with 15 and 6 respectively.

The objectives of the BGA are reflected in the SGU constitution: "To foster and maintain a high standard of Amateur Golf in Scotland and to administer and organise and generally act as the governing body of Amateur Golf in Scotland."

As with the SGU, the BGA's tournament schedule has grown in magnitude over the years. Annual events include the Border Championship, Spring, Summer and Autumn meetings, the Border Champion of Champions, Team Tournament and the Border Challenge Trophy.

The coaching programmes have also been extended with the Youths' and Boys' sections both benefiting from regular sessions.

"The Border Golfers' Association has contributed a great deal to Scottish golf," commented Ian Hume, Secretary of the Scottish Golf Union. "By having the foresight to form an association, the Borders took a lead that the rest of Scotland was to follow. As a result the Scottish Golf Union came into being in 1920.



### *BGA Team Pool 1993*

**Back Row - L-R** - P. Peyton, K.W. Simpson, C. Fraser, A. Turnbull, A.J. Ballantyne, C.I. Ovens, C. Townsend, K.C. Simpson, B. Kettle  
**Front Row - L-R** - G. Scott, R.D. Ballantyne, L.M. Wallace (Team Captain), C. Wood (BGA President), I. Ford, M.G. Thomson, W. Renwick

"The BGA is one of the smaller Associations in terms of numbers but geographically it covers a vast area. This travel situation does present problems, and we at the SGU appreciate the way in which the Border players cope with the distances involved in getting to their own BGA competitions, and to inter-area and district matches.

"Down the generations, the Border Golfers' Association has also provided their fair share of class players. Dick Smith, Graeme Mathew, Donald Ballantyne, Ian Ford, Paul Gallagher and Allan Turnbull are just a few of the names that have made their mark at national level."

It was seven years prior to the official formation that the first tentative steps were taken towards forming the Border Golfers' Association. At a meeting in Hawick Golf Club in April, 1886, a proposal was put forward "That the Border Clubs should be written to asking them to join in obtaining some sort of trophy to be played for annually, the trophy to be kept for one year by the winning club."

Each club was notified, but it was another four years before the quintet of Hawick, Melrose, Selkirk, Innerleithen and

Kelso joined forces to purchase a shield that would become the first Border trophy.

The decision was made to hold an annual competition, with each club being represented by ten players. The winning club would retain the trophy for one year with, in true World Cup football fashion, three successive victories earning the right to keep the trophy.

The first competition was held at Hawick on 19th April, 1890, with Selkirk the inaugural winners. Selkirk repeated the win at Innerleithen the following year and, in signalling the end of the event's brief history, took the trophy outright with a third successive triumph at Melrose in 1892. The shield was subsequently used as the Selkirk Club Championship trophy, and can still be seen in the clubhouse today.

The event may have been short-lived, but it did serve a purpose in bringing together players from the various Border clubs – and presenting a higher level of competition than could be found purely at club level. As a result, a Mr A. Fisher, at the Annual General Meeting of Hawick Golf Club in October 1892, sparked the next competitive initiative in Border Golf when he put forward a proposal to stage a



Borders tournament at the club. The committee vetoed the suggestion on the grounds that it might be too great a task, but suggested that other clubs should be asked to join the movement.

On 7th February, 1893, a meeting in the Kings Arms Hotel of the Melrose committee was called to consider the resolutions proposed by the Hawick Club for the formation of the Border Golfers' Association, and the introduction of a related competition.

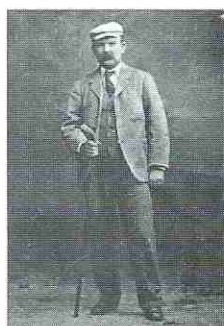
The meeting was unanimous in its acceptance of the objectives and resolutions. Less than a month later – 2nd March, 1893 – the Border Golfers' Association became a reality. A historic day for Scottish amateur golf.

The original seven clubs were joined by Jedburgh in March, 1894, by West Linton in March, 1895, and by Torwoodlee in March, 1897. But the numbers were reduced to nine when Galashiels resigned in October, 1897.

As the club that initially mooted the notion of a Border Golfers' Association, perhaps it is not surprising that Hawick members tended to control the BGA throughout the early years – for the first 60 or so to be more precise.



*The Original Border Challenge Trophy*



*Walter Rutherford*

Walter Rutherford, then of Kelso but a former Hawick captain, was the first BGA President, with another Hawick stalwart, James Barrie, the first Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. The first Honorary President, elected in March, 1895, and

already holding a similar position at Innerleithen Golf Club, was Sir Charles Tennant.

During the first five years of the Association, ten competitions were staged, and the high turn-out reflected the clubs' support for the objectives of the Association.

The Border Championship was instituted in 1893 – the medal being presented to the player producing the lowest gross score from the combination of the spring and autumn meeting.

The first Border Champion was T. D. Chrichton Smith, a founder member of Kelso Golf Club, with rounds of 93 and 89 at Kelso and Selkirk respectively. The award did the rounds over the following few years with the honours roll reading 1894 – Charles Todd (Hawick), 80, 83; 1895 – Andrew Robertson (Innerleithen), 84, 88; 1896 – John Hardie (Selkirk), 86, 85; 1897 – Walter Rutherford (Jedburgh), 87, 84.

In 1894, what is believed to be the first match was staged, Borders versus the Melville College FP Club, known at that time as the Edinburgh Institution FP Golf Club. An excerpt from the minute book of the latter reads: "The match with the BGA, 12 men a side, was held over North Berwick Links on 31st March, 1894, and after a very pleasant game in delightful weather it was found the Institute were victorious by seven holes".

In 1896, a return match – ten players a side – was staged at Hawick, with

the Borders gaining revenge with a 36 hole victory. During the event, James Barrie broke his own Hawick course record by two shots with a round of 74. The first competition for the new BGA Challenge Trophy was held at Torwoodlee in 1904, and it took the form of a knock-out two-ball foursome. The event and format continues today.

The initial event had 24 teams – six from Hawick, four from Torwoodlee, three from Jedburgh and St. Boswells, and two from Selkirk, Melrose, Kelso and Peebles.

Controversy was not missing from the early Borders events. The 1906 autumn competition raised a protest from host club Melrose, when it was suggested that home club players should be penalised three strokes for 18 holes. The protest was upheld, handicaps revised, and the Melrose players penalised two shots. I wonder what would happen if a similar strategy was proposed today? In 1960, another trophy was added to the BGA cabinet. Presented by the then President, John Hart, the Hart Trophy was put up for the annual Border Boys' Championship.

Fittingly, the first name engraved on the cup is that of Melrose's David F. Campbell, a player who went on to become one of the BGA's most celebrated stars.

Reflecting the growth of golf in recent years, 1976 saw the introduction of a 'B' Team tournament. The event was suggested by Melrose member, Leslie Wallace. The proposal was to stage the tournament annually at Melrose, with the teams of four being made up of players with handicaps ten to 18. The first winners were Galashiels.

In the same season, the BGA formed a summer league in which four clubs – Hawick, Melrose, Selkirk and Torwoodlee – took part on a home and away basis. Peebles, Kelso and Ladhope joined the following season, but the league folded in 1978.



**Centenary Committee 1993**

*Back - G.C. Rutherford, G.B. Ovens, A.N. Simpson  
Front - J.A. Hume, R.G. Scott, C. Wood,  
D. Howden, G. Rennie*

## *From March to September...*

Border Golfers' Association members certainly cannot complain of lack of playing opportunities. From March to September the card is packed with tournaments – strokeplay, matchplay and team events for boys, youths, seniors and veterans. And, to show that the womenfolk are not completely forgotten, the list also includes a number of open mixed foursomes events.

The Spring Competition is the first major event, while the Border Challenge Trophy has pride of place as a grand end-of-season finale.

A number of events go towards making up the annually contested senior and boys' order-of-merits, whilst the highlight of the team event circuit is the Scottish Inter-Area Championship. Contested by teams of six from each of the 16 Scottish Golf Union member areas.

After two rounds of matchplay knockout – foursomes and singles – four areas qualify for the semi-finals and final which are played over a weekend in September at one pre-selected venue.

As one of the smaller areas, the Borders is always one of the outsiders, although the odds were upset when the BGA reached the final stages at Hags Castle in 1980, Cardross in 1982 and West Kilbride in 1989.



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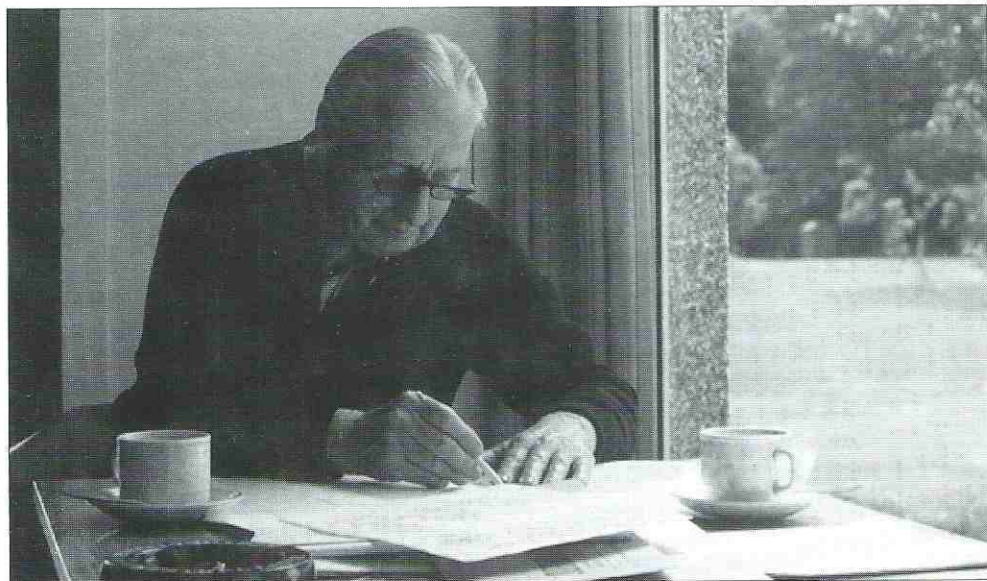
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# Alex Cleghorn

*and the 1960's Revolution*

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Dominated by Hawick members throughout the early years, major changes took place within the Border Golfers' Association when Selkirk's Alex Cleghorn took over as Secretary and Treasurer in 1964.



Alex Cleghorn, just 22 years younger than the BGA, has done more than any other man to help in the development of the Association. He is well worthy of the title, "Mr Border Golf".

A scratch player for many years, the Selkirk stalwart, who first made his mark by winning the 1934 Border Championship, gained a notable reputation

as a player in his own right, and formed a renowned partnership with Walker Cup player, Dick Smith, in the Evening Times Scottish Foursomes.

During a wonderful purple patch in the 1950s, the duo propelled Selkirk to the forefront of Scottish golf. During that period they lost in the final of the Foursomes to Jimmy Walker and Jack Cannon from

Irvine, and twice reached the semi-finals.

During his years in the Borders, Dick Smith was one of the family as far as Alex and his wife, Jenny, were concerned. Many a late night was spent discussing golfing matters in the flat above the Cleghorn's sports shop in Selkirk's High Street.

It was when he arrived in Selkirk in 1946 to take over the family business in one of the local mills, that Dick was advised to visit Alex for advice on where he could get a game of golf. A visit to the shop led to a friendship stretching close on 50 years. And while Dick may have moved to Troon, following his retirement in 1983, the pair still visit at least twice per year.

On the course, the pair had complimentary games, with Dick's long game strengths dovetailing perfectly with Alex's short game wizardry.

When Alex was forced, through ill-health, to give up an outstanding playing career, it was not long before he took up the game's administrative reins with equal enthusiasm and dedication.

During the first 70 years, the Border Golfers' Association could best be described as an informal, homespun affair run primarily by the members of Hawick Golf Club. But the revolutionary 1960s gave way to big, big changes.

At the heart of the revolution was Alex Cleghorn, who, despite being in Peel Hospital undergoing an operation, was offered, and accepted, the joint post of secretary and treasurer.

It was at the annual general meeting in 1963 that Hugh Gilmore (Peebles) and Walter Ballantyne (St. Boswells) proposed that a new council should be formed consisting of a President, Secretary, two Scottish Golf Union delegates plus three other members.

At a meeting in Alex's house that lasted well into the wee sma' hours the new, more professional approach to Border golf was thrashed out. Tom Fairbairn, a

Peebles farmer who had made his mark as a player, was appointed President, and with Alex as the guiding force, the future well-being of the Association was assured.

Fortunately, the changes took place without any ill-feeling. The existing council readily accepted that time was ripe for change, and were perhaps relieved to discover willing hands to take over the administrative duties.

During his spell as BGA Secretary/Treasurer from 1964–1972, Alex was nominated as Chairman of the Scottish Boys' International Selection Committee, and also a selector at youth and senior level.

Illness led to Alex relinquishing his administrative duties in 1972, although he later returned to bridge a gap in 1984–85. However, he never stopped coaching and today he remains one of the most sought after teachers in Scottish golf.



*Craig Hislop,  
Scottish Boys  
Champion 1991*

At the 1991 Scottish Boys' Championship, Alex grabbed the headlines when the winner, Craig Hislop, attributed his success to the Border enthusiast.

Colin Fraser, former Scottish Boys' Champion from Burntisland, now a fledgling

professional, and Scottish Boys caps, Andrew Farmer (Ranfurly Castle) and Graham Davidson (Langholm), are Cleghorn-coached names who appear set for greater success.

In the past, Kelso's Ian Ford, winner of the 1977 British Boys' title, was a dedicated adherent to the Cleghorn method, while Alex's own son, Murray, was beaten in the final of the 1964 Scottish Boys' Championship by Bill Lockie, now the professional at Kilmarnock Barassie, Murray also followed in his father's





*Murray Cleghorn,  
winner of the Border  
Championship in 1975*

footsteps by winning the Border Championship.

One of Alex's mottos is that if a boy is good enough, he is old enough. For many years he fought a losing battle with the SGU trying to get Boy internationalists

into the Youth teams. However, the governing body did later see the light and David Robertson, Lee Vannet and Stephen Gallacher have since gone on to represent Scotland at boys, youth and senior level within the same season.

A golfer abrim with natural talent, Alex learned his own game from Peter Robertson, a professional based at the Braid Hills in Edinburgh. And he added to his coaching experience when, as a member of the Scottish Golf Union



*Alex won the Border Championship in 1934*

executive, he travelled with the senior international team to Northumberland for get togethers with "Dr Golf", John Jacobs.

Bob Toski, the famous American teacher, was another influence. Alex met the US guru on a visit to Dalmahoy, and has used his books and videos to expand his coaching knowledge.

Alex has always been the most enthusiastic supporter of boys' golf, and among his first group of charges, back in the 1960s, was the 1991-93 Ryder Cup Captain, Bernard Gallagher.



*Jenny Cleghorn*

Jenny Cleghorn, a fine golfer in her own right and a former Selkirk Ladies' Champion, was the ideal right-hand woman for Alex. She complimented her husband's interest by serving for many years as secretary and treasurer of the Border Ladies' County Golf Association.

Since her untimely death in the mid 1980s, Alex has dedicated his golf teaching to his wife's memory through the setting up of the Jenny Cleghorn Cancer Research Fund – voluntary contributions from his pupils having raised over £4,500 in the ensuing years.

# George B. Ovens

Responsible for the resurrection of the St. Boswells Golf Club in 1958, George Ovens went on to become a tireless worker in the Border and Scottish Golf Administration. His contribution was made complete in 1992 when he was the first born-and-bred Borderer to be appointed president of the Scottish Golf Union.



Scottish golf in general, and St. Boswells in particular, has reason to be grateful to George Ovens. His tremendous contribution to the game was made complete when in 1992 he became the first born-and-bred Borderer to be appointed President of the Scottish Golf Union since its inception in 1920.

Such an accolade could not have gone to a more dedicated and enthusiastic golfer either in his capacity as an administrator or player. During his 11 years with the SGU he has been a tireless contributor, with the development of boys' golf having been the main benefactor from his command.

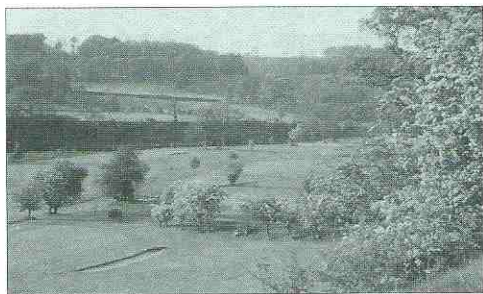
George first played golf as a junior member at Selkirk and, after the war, was for two years a member of the Glencorse Golf Club. It was in 1952, having been appointed Depute Planning Officer in the Planning and Development Department of Roxburgh County Council, that he returned to the Borders and set up home in St. Boswells.

A scratch golfer, and County player, George had joined Melrose on his return south but, along with several local



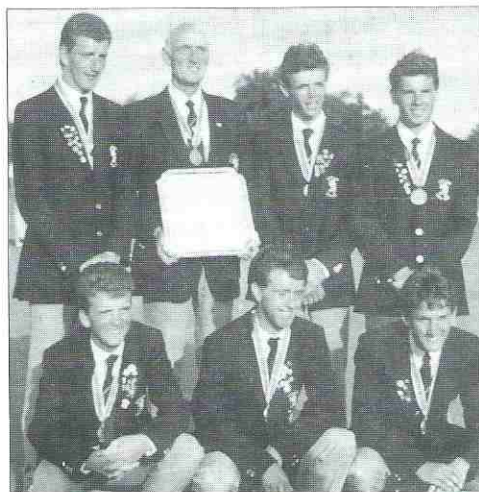
enthusiasts, a meeting was arranged in 1958 with the intention of resurrecting the St. Boswells Golf Club.

The club, originally founded in 1899, had become obsolete following flood damage in 1948. However, with the leadership and enthusiasm of George, the club was reformed and the course was opened for play again in 1958.



*St Boswells Course*

After having served on the BGA Executive Committee for a number of years, George was appointed President of the BGA during the years 1981 and 1982. He joined the Scottish Golf Union Council in 1982 as the Border representative, and was immediately appointed onto the Boys' Championship committee. It was an



*Captain of Scottish Boys, winners at Chantilly European Boys Team Championships 1987*

inspired move by the powers that be.

Over the ensuing years, George served both as selector and non-playing captain of the Boys' International Team, leading Scotland to four medals in five years in the European Boys' Team Championship.

The highlight was a victory at Chantilly in France in 1987.

"It gave me confidence as Team Captain and it was a tremendously proud and emotional moment. Scottish golf is held in such high regard on the continent that it puts extra pressure on the players and management both in terms of playing ability, and in golf etiquette. The standard throughout Europe has risen dramatically in recent years and it is a tremendous achievement for our sides to continue to maintain their high place among the medals. During my time, the team won two gold medals in 1987 and 1992. Silver medals in 1988 at Renfrew and Reykjavik, Iceland in 1990. Even in 1989 at Sweden, when we missed out on the medals, we still finished fourth."

As a worthy reward for his years of service, George was appointed Junior Vice-President of the SGU in 1990, and automatically stepped up to Senior Vice-President the following year. As a result, he had to relinquish his post as Boys' team captain, although he did travel to the 1991 European Boys' Championship in Oslo and cheered the Scots to bronze medals. During his presidential year he was recalled as team captain for the championship at Conway in Wales, and once again led his team to victory and another gold medal.

His term of office as President began at the 1992 Annual General Meeting in Edinburgh in January, and in what is almost a full-time position, he went on to follow a full schedule of attendances at all national events and internationals in Sweden, France and Italy, including many centenary dinners and social functions.

Reflecting on the development of golf during his lifetime, George regrets the passing of one school of learning. "When I was a youngster you learnt so much about the game by caddying for the top players. I caddied for Alex Cleghorn, a Border Champion, and learnt so much about aspects such as course conduct, and the rules of the game. It was an excellent grounding which proved invaluable in later years.



*Kenneth and Colin Ovens  
Border Challenge Trophy Winners  
in 1976 and 1977*

"The national and international events now enjoy a far higher profile, and the coaching schemes have doubled since I joined the Union. The appointment of Bob Torrance, and the introduction of overseas training camps during the winter are all recent improvements. To succeed,

however, at international level the development of coaching in all its aspects must be up to the highest standards."

As a youngster George's main aim was to be a boy internationalist. His ambitions were hampered by the intervention of the Second World War. But George Ovens has gone on to gain international recognition in the field of golf administration – and the legacy he leaves from his period with the Scottish Golf Union will never be forgotten.

George's golf interests extended beyond Scotland in 1992 when he was appointed Chairman of CONGU (The Council of National Golf Unions) which considers the wider issues of amateur golf in Great Britain and Ireland, and also to the R. & A. Championship Committee to officiate at the 'Open' and other major international events.

As a Borderer, George is proud of the part played by the BGA in the establishment of the SGU. He is also delighted to be part of a region which can assuredly claim to house Scotland's finest clutch of picturesque and hospitable courses.

However, he is not blinkered to the requirements of the area. "To make the Borders near perfect, we need another good 18-hole course and more practice facilities. At present, the majority of courses have no practice grounds or, at very best, very limited areas."

With the extensions to the Hirsell and Torwoodlee already in the pipeline, and proposals for other major developments, George's perfect Border picture may soon be made complete.

It is George's view that the game of golf is something apart from all other sports and games. "It is a game of honour, in play you are, in most cases, your own referee. It is a character builder both in the playing and the social sense – a game to start playing early, when you are young and you will be rewarded with great enjoyment throughout your life."





*The BGA present George Owens with a memento in appreciation of his services to Border Golf.*

To mark George's achievements in golf, the Border Golfers' Association held a day in his honour at Torwoodlee in November, 1992. His family and friends were all in on a surprise occasion and George admitted: "It was a wonderful day, one I will always remember. I was so overwhelmed that my legs were shaking and I broke down in tears."

As a reminder of the day, George was presented with a Selkirk Glass memento.

In ending his year as President of the Scottish Golf Union at the AGM in January 1993, George had the honour of Honorary President of the SGU bestowed upon him, and the incoming President, Douglas Rae, reflected: "George epitomised the mental picture one has of an SGU President – upstanding, of high

integrity and full of dignity. Although soft-spoken, George achieved his goals through a thoughtful and careful approach, and is held in the highest respect by all his European counterparts.

"During his years with the Union, and particularly during his time as Boys' captain, he has shown great qualities of leadership. His achievements in Europe, with a record of 18 wins and just five defeats, is second to none."

While having completed his term of office as President, George will remain active in the SGU as a valued member of the Boys' selection committee.

In the BGA's Centenary Year, he also retains his position as Chairman of CONGU and its representative on the R. & A. Championship Committee.



# BGA Trophies

**The Border Championship, Challenge Trophy, Champion of Champions and Inter-Club Team Tournament are the Border “majors”. Victory in the annual ‘Grand Slam’ remains the ultimate, if still elusive, aim for all Border golfers.**

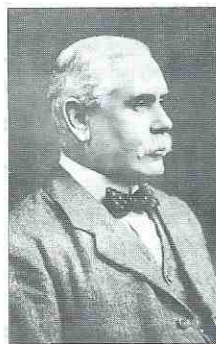
Throughout the season, the Border Golfers' Association presents a calendar packed with tournaments for teams and individuals in all age groups – junior, youth, senior and veteran.

The four events that stand out as the BGA “majors” are the Border Championship, the Border Champion of Champions, the Border Challenge Trophy and the Border Team Tournament.

Pride of place must go to the Border Championship. Instituted in 1893, the first winner was Thomas David (known as T.D.) Chrichton Smith, a founder member of Kelso Golf Club and the club's first captain.

In the early days, the Championship Medal was awarded to the player who returned the best scratch total from the combined scores of the spring and

autumn meetings. Chrichton Smith's 36-hole aggregate of 182 comprised of a 93 over Kelso and an 89 over Selkirk.



*T.D. Chrichton Smith*

Walter Rutherford, another founder member of Kelso and the inaugural Border Golfers' Association President, was a three-times winner in those early years.

Having switched allegiance from Kelso to Jedburgh, he won the title in 1897, and then back-to-back in 1899 and 1900.

James Barrie, the first BGA Secretary and Treasurer, also graced the winner's list, taking the title in 1901 and 1903.

The most prolific winner around the turn of the century was H. M. Duncan of Hawick who won the Medal seven times. His sixth win came in 1913 and, following an interruption for the Great War, he successfully defended the title in 1920.

A tally of seven Border Championships is a record that has only been bettered by the nine triumphs of



*The Original Championship and Challenge Trophy Gold Medals*

T. T. Sanderson of Innerleithen and, more latterly, Peebles.

In 1935, Lt.-Col. Taylor of Hendersyde Park in Kelso presented the Border Championship Trophy, and that coincided with a change in the competition's format.

The top 16 players of handicap of nine or less who returned the best scratch scores in the summer meeting qualified to play in the Border Championship on a date, and over a course, selected by the Committee.

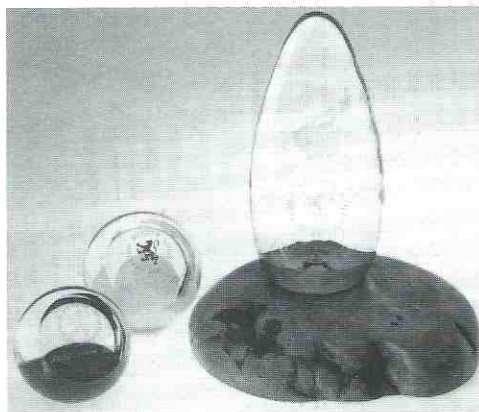
The Championship was contested over 36 holes and the first recipient of the Taylor Cup was Cameron Conn, who served as BGA Secretary from 1941 before going on to become the Scottish Golf Union President from 1948–1950. He won with a 149 total (76, 73) over Torwoodlee.

Jimmy Brown, of Hawick and more latterly Torwoodlee, won the title in 1937 at Hawick and staged a successful defence the following year over the same course. Who knows how many he would have won if the Second World War had not intervened? As it was, he collected a third time in 1959.

T. T. Sanderson, who had initiated his marvellous record by winning a hat-trick of titles under the previous format from



*The Border Championship Trophy*



*1993 Centenary Year specially commissioned  
Selkirk Glass Trophies*

1931–1933, was again the winner under the revised format in 1936 at Selkirk. He then notched title number five in the first post-War championship in 1947, number six in 1958 and eight and nine in 1960 and 1962. A marvellous record spanning four decades.

The Championship was later upgraded to a 72-hole event and the entry list was opened up to include all low-handicap BGA members.

Dick Smith (Selkirk), the legendary Walker Cup player, and Paul Gallagher (Peebles), who also claimed the title four years in a row from 1978, are the other names to grace the trophy on a quartet of occasions.

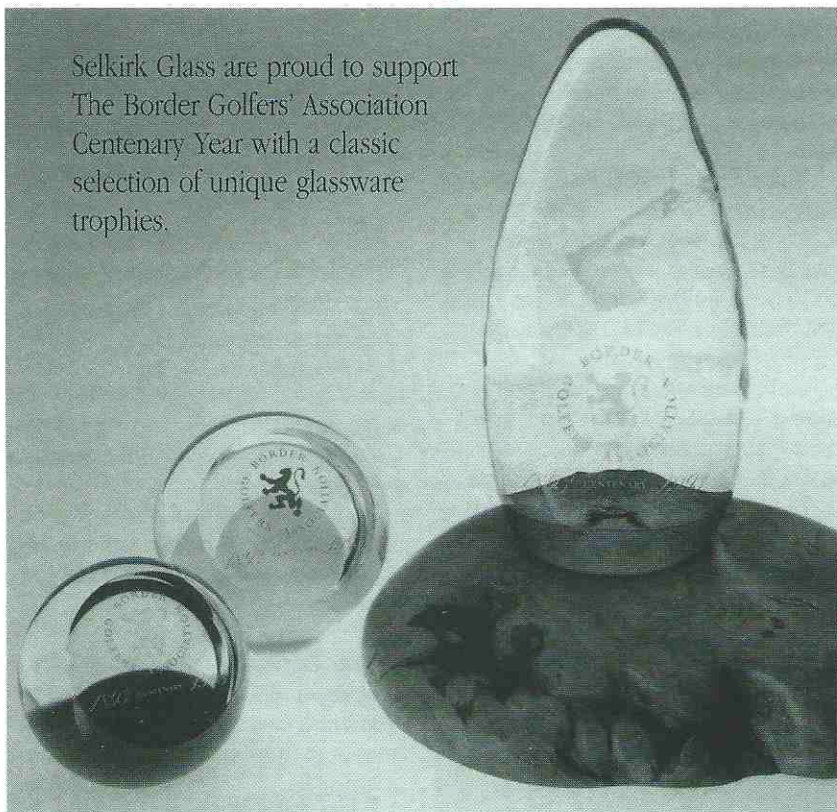
Alex Cleghorn's outstanding career included one Border Championship title – over Melrose and Kelso – in 1934, and his son, Murray, then went on to complete a family double by taking the honours in 1975.

The Border Challenge Trophy came into being even before the Border Golfers' Association had been formally instituted. It was in 1886 – seven years before the Association's foundation – that five clubs, namely Hawick, Melrose, Selkirk, Innerleithen and Kelso, clubbed together to purchase the trophy – a magnificent shield.



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The format agreed upon was ten aside and all scores counting, with the proviso that, if any club won for three years in succession, they would retain the trophy,

Selkirk duly obliged by taking the honours at Hawick in 1890, Innerleithen in 1891 and Melrose in 1892. Until 1966, the Trophy was used by the club as the Club Championship. It remains in the clubhouse today, and is one of Selkirk's proudest possessions.



*The Border Challenge Trophy*

It was 11 years after the formation of the Border Golfers' Association in 1893 that a new Challenge Trophy was introduced. The format was also altered to 18 holes of knock-out foursomes.

The Challenge Trophy was originally the BGA season's pipe-opener but, since the 1980s, it has found a new niche over two weekends at the tail end of the season. Over the years it has become established as one of the most sought-after titles on the Border circuit, and clubs can enter as many teams as they wish.

Hawick, with 19 inscriptions on the Trophy, are the club to have enjoyed the greatest success in the event just pipping 18 times winners Peebles. Selkirk, with 13

victories, are the other club to have reached double figures.

Among the famous partnerships to have enjoyed success in the Challenge Trophy are Dick Smith and Alex Cleghorn, who took the title for Selkirk in 1948 and then three times in a row from 1954.

The St Boswell's Ovens brothers, Colin and Kenny, graced the Trophy honours list on three occasions, while brothers Kenny and Keith Simpson, of Galashiels, completed a hat-trick of victories in the space of four years from 1987.

The Border Champion of Champions was inaugurated in 1966, and the first name on the winner's list is that of Kelso's Alex Bell, who also made his mark in the Borders as an accomplished rugby player.

David Campbell (Melrose) holds the record number of victories – five – while Kenny Wells (Peebles) and Kenny Ovens (St Boswells) are both double winners of an event that is run throughout the season on a knock-out basis.

The Border Team Tournament, the George Wallace Memorial Trophy, was introduced to the fixture list in 1964, and is a four-man strokeplay event with the three best scratch scores to count.

Hawick again hold the joint honour with Melrose and Peebles of having been the most prolific winners with six victories.

It was Nan Wallace, mother of Melrose's Leslie (a former Border Champion and county stalwart), who donated the trophy in memory of her late husband.

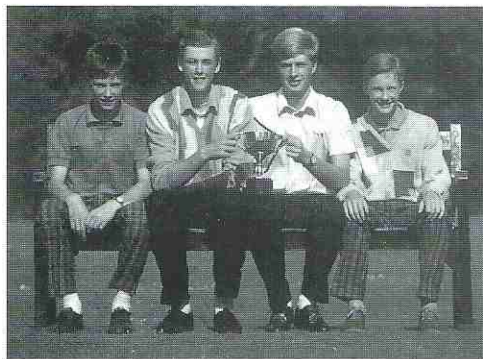




# Young and Old

With an eye ever open to the future, the Border Golfers' Association promotes Boys' and Youths' golf through regular coaching and competitions. Annual events for the over 50s' also insures that the more mature members are not forgotten.

The Border Golfers' Association has a proud record of encouraging youngsters into the game. Alex Cleghorn has been a father figure in helping to produce a continuing line of top-class players through his coaching activities, while, as a member of the Scottish Golf Union Executive, he has long been an advocate of the maxim that "if they're good enough, they're old enough".



*Torwoodlee BGA Junior Cup Winners 1989*

It was in 1984, through the prompting of Alex Cleghorn and Paul Gallagher, that a Junior Border Association was formed as an off-shoot of the Border Golfers' Association.

The youngsters had not been ignored in the previous years, but the new format provided a more structured programme, with an order-of-merit title and regular competitions throughout the season.

The first Border Boys' Championship was held in 1952 with victory going to E. Robertson of Hawick. The 1950's ended with the competition being cancelled through lack of entries.

However, it was revived the following year, 1960, and was given added status with the introduction of a Trophy presented by Melrose's John Hart, the BGA President from 1955-64. The first winner was, fittingly, David Campbell (Melrose). The victory launched a career

that was to make David a legend in his own lifetime in both Border circles and beyond.

Many Border stalwarts first tasted County success in the Hart Trophy, including Leslie Wallace (Melrose) and Donald Ballantyne (Selkirk).



*Graham Hill,  
1992 Border Boys'  
Champion*



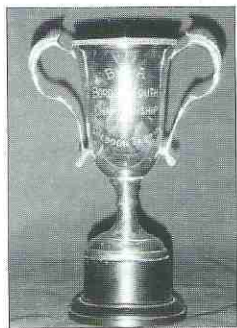


*1987 Veterans Trophy Competitors*

Euan Dougal (Eyemouth) holds a unique position as the only double winner – in 1985 and 1987.

Graham Hill, a 17-year-old from Galashiels, goes into the BGA Centenary season as the current Border Boys' Champion. Who knows what further county honours he will go on to collect in the years to come?

In addition to the Championship, the Border Boys' have an annual order-of-merit number of events; inter-county matches, a Border Champion of Champions and the annual team tournament.



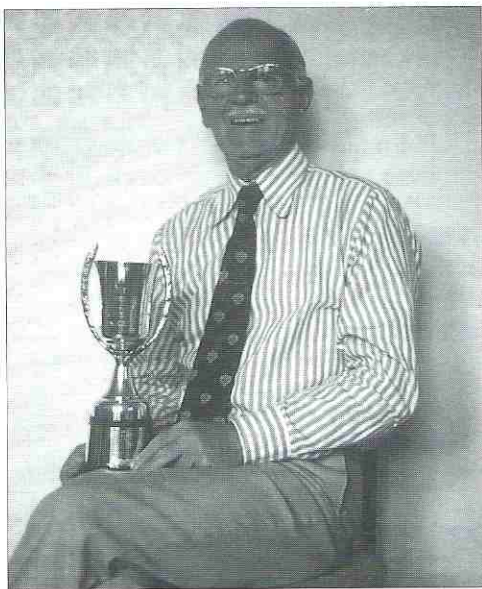
*Youth Championship Trophy*

Having stepped out of boys events, the youngsters get another chance to bridge the gap to senior level by competing in the Border Youths' Competition and play in a Championship, the Sneddon Trophy, which was introduced in 1976.

Paul Gallagher (Peebles), winner of the 1974 Scottish Boys' Strokeplay Championship, was the first Border Youths' Champion, while Donald Ballantyne's name

graces the Trophy three times between 1981 and 1984. Others winners include the 1977 British Boys' Champion, Ian Ford (Kelso), and James Patterson (Eyemouth), a double winner in 1987 and 1989.

The more mature BGA members are also catered for with an annual Border Seniors' Tournament. A handicap event, the competition was introduced in 1970 following the kind donation of a trophy from the Innerleithen company Ballantyne Sportswear.



*Jock Sewell, Veterans Winner 1988*

# Friends of the Borders

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**Throughout its history, the Border Golfers' Association has formed many friendships with other regions. The alliances led to the formation of the South-East District, and an annual programme of fiercely contested matches.**

Having led the way in the formation of Scottish area golf, is not surprising that the Border Golfers' Association was strongly opposed to a 1958 Scottish Golf Union proposal to merge the BGA with the South of Scotland association.

The Border officials supported their case on the pretext that the 200 miles separating Berwick in the east to Stranraer in the west would make for a far from happy marriage. The SGU agreed to let the status quo continue.

However, the BGA has enjoyed amicable alliances with many areas and, throughout the BGA's first 100 years, players have benefited from taking part in a growing number of inter-county matches. This has led to the cementing of many golfing friendships.

The BGA competes in the annual Scottish Inter-Area Championship - reaching the finals in 1980, 1982 and 1989. While matches that have found a permanent place on the fixture card are against the Lothians, Fife, the South and Northumberland.

Early records are patchy, but links with the Dumfriesshire Clubs stretch back

to the early years of the BGA - the original constitution states that Dumfries Clubs were invited to join the BGA.

In 1947, there is documented evidence of a letter having been sent to the South with a proposal "to renew the annual match between the two Areas."

In 1950, a match was held at Southernness with the Borders winning 15<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. The fixture is now staged annually - one year at home, the next away.

"The contest against the Borders has become an annual highlight," said John Sommerville, Secretary of the South. "It is fiercely contested, but also a very friendly occasion.

"George Ovens has also been a tremendous friend to the South through his interest in boys' golf. He has been a regular spectator at the South Boys' Championships and, through his help, players like Andrew Coltart (now a European Tour professional) and Craig Hislop (the 1991 Scottish Boys' Champion) have developed into outstanding golfers. We in the South are looking forward to continuing our contacts with the Borders as the BGA goes into its second decade."

It was following a suggestion by





*Ian Graham, Vice President - Lothians*

the Scottish Golf Union that the annual date with the Lothians came into being. The first match was held at Torwoodlee in 1922, and the home side went down 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> - 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

A combined Borders and South team joined forces on two occasions to compete against the Lothians. But it certainly wasn't a case of two sides being better than one. The Lothians won 11-7 at Powfoot in 1959, and they triumphed 15-9 at Newbattle the following year.

From 1959-64 a combined Lothians, Borders and South team took part in the Scottish Inter-Zone Championship. The annual encounter, which also involved sides from the Highland and West Midlands, was regarded, at that time, as an unofficial Scottish international team trial. Dick Smith, Selkirk's Walker Cup player,

was a regular Border representative.

Another development was the formation of the South-East District - the Borders and the Lothians - in 1965. The two areas stage an annual 72-hole South-East District Championship.

Muir Jinkins, from the Lothians, was the first South-East District President, while Tom Fairbairn, a former BGA President from Peebles, was the inaugural Vice-President.

In 1977, a South-East team played against Northumberland at Dunbar, with the home side winning 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> - 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. The following year, the match was held at Northumberland (South-East won 10-5), and the fixture is now an annual event.

"There has been a very long and happy association between the Lothians and the Borders, and a lot of our players are also members of Border Clubs," said Ian Graham, Vice-President, Lothians. "The tie-up through the South-East District and the Winter League has also proved to be extremely beneficial to both areas."

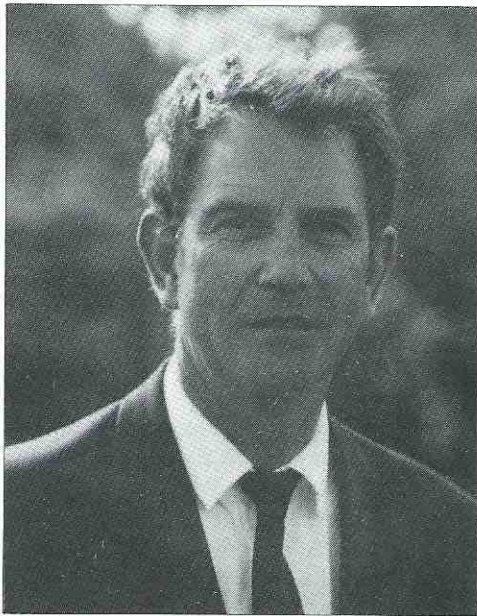
The Northumberland Union of Golf Clubs are equally delighted to participate in the annual Border/Lothians fixture.

"It always marks the start of a new season, and everybody in Northumberland looks forward to the fixture," said Elliott Procter, Secretary of the Northumberland Union of Golf Clubs. "It's a great chance to meet old, and make new friends."

A couple of players to have represented both the Borders and Northumberland are the former Eyemouth star, Alan Black, and Jedburgh's Jamie Browne, who is now carving out a career as a professional.

The annual match against Fife was inaugurated in 1950. The 12 a-side fixture was staged at Pitfirrane, Dunfermline, and the result was a friendly 9-all draw. The visiting line-up included such renowned Border golfers as Jimmy Brown, Sid Telfer, TT Sanderson and William Cowe.





*David Moir, Fife Tournament Convener*

Traditionally held at the end of season, the match was cancelled in 1991. However, it was resurrected in 1992 with a new, season date.

"The change in date has helped revitalise the fixture," said David Moir, the Fife Tournament Convener. "We used it as the Fife trial to select the six man team for the Scottish Area Championship and we put together a very strong line-up." (Fife were comfortable winners!)

"No-one wanted the fixture to fall by the wayside as there has always been a great friendship between Fife and the Borders. There is great rivalry between the two areas, but the match is always played in the best of spirits."

In 1947, a much heralded match between the Borders and the West of Scotland took place at Torwoodlee. The visiting line-up comprised Eddie Hamilton, who was Scottish Champion in 1936 and 1938, and another eight internationalists in Donald Cameron, Jimmy Wilson, Walter McLeod, Bob MacGregor, Bob Neill,

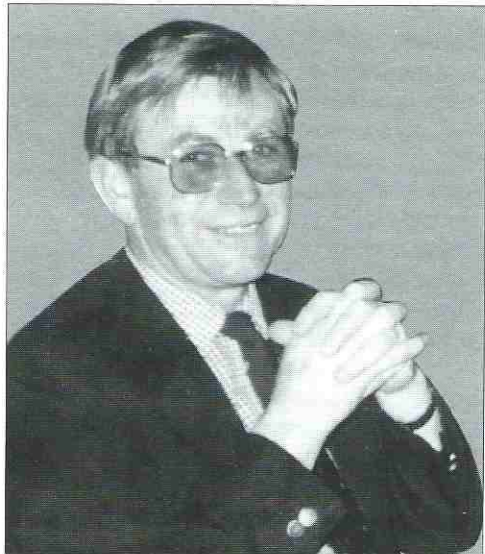
Jimmy Dykes, Alan Stevenson and John Campbell plus Brodie Lennox.

The home stars were Dick Smith, Reid Welsh, Tom Fairbairn, Jimmy Brown, Bob Campbell, T.T. Sanderson, William Cowe, Dick Livingstone, Cameron Conn and Tom Fraser.

The Border men put up a good fight against the star-studded visiting line-up, but the eventual score was 11½ - 3½ in the West side's favour.

Another step forward on the competitive front in more recent years came in 1970 when the Borders joined West, East and Midlothian to form a quadrangular Winter League. It was Selkirk's Alex Cleghorn who initiated the Border's inclusion, and it was the Border man's devotion to the development of junior golf that resulted in an agreement between the four sides that a youth and boy golfer be included in each of the teams for the 10 a-side matches.

The Borders have won the title in 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, and marked the start of the Centenary Year with a sixth victory in the 1992/93 season.



*Elliot Procter, Secretary - Northumberland*

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# The ones that got away....

As with any organisation, the Border Golfers' Association has some regrets. They may be few and far between, but a few opportunities have been missed.

## *Dumfries Clubs*

A neat, little 15 page booklet set out the original constitution and rules of the Border Golfers' Association, instituted in 1893, and it announced that "the Association would be composed of Golf Clubs within the Counties of Roxburgh, Berwick, Selkirk Peebles and Dumfries."

Although records are sketchy, it would appear that none of the Dumfries clubs accepted the invitation until Langholm joined the BGA in 1923. However, all the other Dumfriesshire Clubs chose to join the South area.

The Scottish Golf Union attempted to bring the two areas together in 1958 by suggesting that the Borders and the South should amalgamate under the latter's banner. The BGA declined!

## *Craig Hislop*

A member of both Langholm and Powfoot – a Border Golfers' Association / South of Scotland divide as regards Scottish Golf Union affiliation – Craig Hislop was snapped up by the South to represent the region in the Scottish Boys' Team



*Craig Hislop*

Championship when he was a promising, but still raw, 14-year-old.

It was a wise move. He went on to win the 1991 Scottish Boys Championship at West Kilbride, and has the potential to become one of Scotland's leading players in the mid-1990s and beyond.

## *Professionals*

It is a peculiarity of the area that, entering centenary year, only one of the BGA member clubs, namely Eyemouth with Craig Maltman, have a professional attached to the club.

Some clubs have flirted with the notion of employing a professional in the past, but, in general, it is the local town's sports shop that has benefited from the Borderer's craze for the game.





*West Linton Golf Club*

### *Clubs come and go*

West Linton and Magdalene Fields are two clubs that have flirted with membership of the Border Golfers Association.

Records reveal that West Linton joined the Association two years after its formation in 1895, but then resigned in 1917. The Club then re-joined in 1965, but membership only lasted seven years.

Situated on the boundary between two areas, it was in 1972 that West Linton decided to switch allegiance to the Lothians.

Magdalene Fields, in Berwick, became affiliated to the BGA in 1949. But it was short-lived association as the club resigned in 1982 to join the Northumberland Union of Golf Clubs.



*Magdalene Fields, Berwick*

# Member Clubs

At the start of the Centenary Year, nineteen clubs - two of which are non-course owning - were affiliated to the Border Golfers' Association. Each club has its own history and a special niche in the BGA.

## Duns

<i>Founded:</i>	1894
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	68: 5,826 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1948

After a meeting at the local Working Men's club, Duns Golf Club was formed on 9th November, 1894. Within a week, the members of the club were able to play over the original nine hole course situated at Castleknowes to the east of the town.

The first President of the club was R. M. Hay of Duns Castle, and an association with the Hay family continues today with the present owner of Duns Castle, Mr A. D. Hay, the President of the club.

After the Great War, the club sought new ground and it was in 1920 that a lease was granted for the present site to the west of Duns at Woolforland Park.

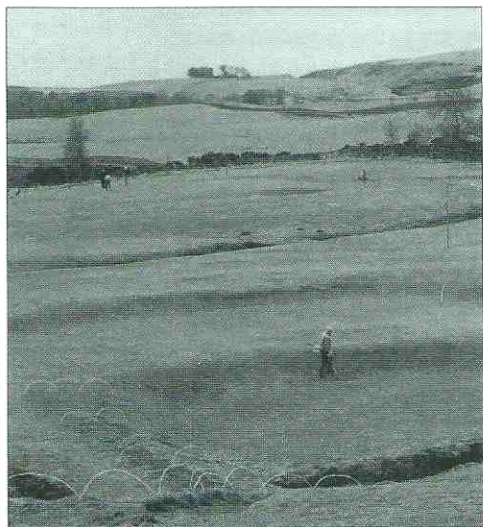
A. H. Scott, a professional from Elie in Fife, was engaged to lay out the course – the fee was two pounds ten shillings! – and the new course was opened in the spring of 1921.



*Duns Clubhouse*



A prominent feature of the layout was the use of the burn which meanders its way throughout the lower part of the course. An upland course, Duns offers spectacular views over the Cheviot hills.



*Duns Golf Course 6th Hole*

Initially, the course included a field at the top of the present course. But the members soon realised that target practice from the adjoining shooting range made putting on the third green rather hazardous. Consequently, the top holes were discarded, and additional ground was leased on the site of the present first and ninth holes.

In 1971, the club accepted the opportunity to purchase the ground from Duns Castle Estate, and many improvements have been made throughout the intervening years.

Looking ahead to the centenary in 1994, plans include an extension of the course to 18 holes.

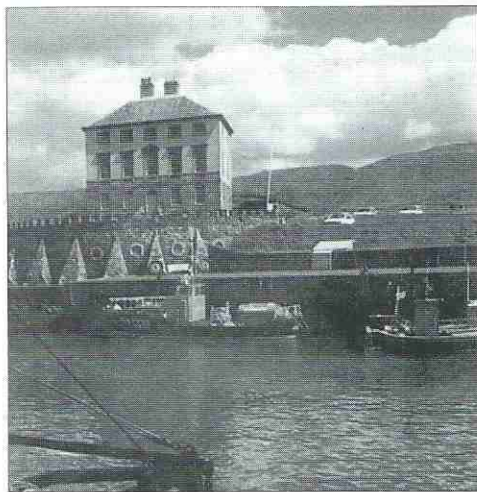
One of the best known Duns golfers was Willie Cowe, a scratch handicap man who won numerous club championships in the period from 1940 through to the 1960s, and also starred on the Borders circuit.

## *Eyemouth*

<i>Founded:</i>	1894
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	66: 5,096 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1960

The only coastal parkland course in the Borders, Eyemouth offers panoramic views over the North Sea. The original designer remains a mystery, however, it is presumed that members of the family of Sir W. G. Simpson, who owned the land and presented an inscribed medal to the club to mark the opening on 25th May, 1894, carried out the original work.

Although 1894 is the date officially recognised regarding the club's foundation, there are records of a club having been formed in 1880, with play taking place at the neighbouring village of Ayton.



*Eyemouth Clubhouse*

The Eyemouth clubhouse is an added attraction for visitors. It is a protected historic "Adams" building and dates from the time of Oliver Cromwell, who took up residence during the time of the occupation.

Eyemouth joined the BGA in 1960, and brothers, Alan and James Patterson have featured regularly in Border





*Eyemouth "The Gulley Hole" the 15th*

Championships at junior and senior level. James also represented Scotland at boys level in 1985.

Other players who have made a major contribution to the County Association are W. Blackie, J. Blackie, W. Nichol, A. Nichol, A. Black, A. Aitchison and J. Aitchison.

Situated on the east coast, Eyemouth is the most outlying of the 17 BGA clubs. However, several events have taken place at the course, and the Association appreciates when Eyemouth members make the long trip to competitions.

### ***Galashiels (Ladhope)***

<i>Founded:</i>	1884
<i>Holes:</i>	18
<i>Par:</i>	67: 5,185 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1893
	<i>Founder Member</i>

The first golf club in Galashiels was founded in 1884, and the game was played on the fields of the Ladhope Estate which the proprietor, J. S. Brunton, granted rent free. Mr William Dunlop, a local headmaster, was the moving force behind the club, and he served as Captain from 1884–1888, and then secretary from 1885–1891. During the early years, entry

amounted to an entry fee of five shillings, plus an annual subscription of five shillings.

The nine-hole course was laid out around Appletreelaves House and alongside the Ladhope Burn. Unfortunately, the course, used for animal grazing, became unplayable in the summer – circumstances which hardly helped the club's development.

As a result, a breakaway group founded the Torwoodlee Club in 1895, and at a special meeting of the Galashiels Golf Club on 3 August, 1897, it was agreed to disband the club and hand over all the assets, money, cups and medals to the Torwoodlee Club.

But, 15 years later, the Galashiels Golf Club was re-formed on 21 August, 1912, and the following October, Mr Hugh Roberts, the proprietor of Ladhope Estate, gifted the land on which the golf course now stands to the people of Galashiels – the area now known as Ladhope Recreation Ground.



*R. Livingstone and partner A. B. Gladstone, Galashiels winners of the 1932 BGA Challenge Trophy*



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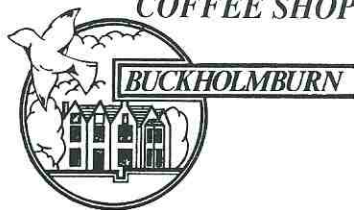
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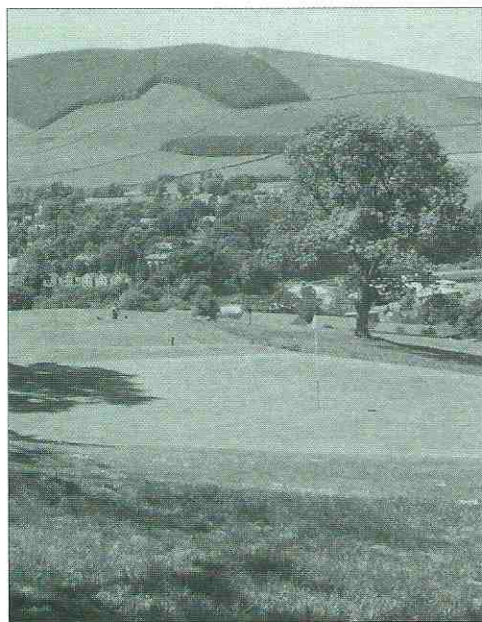
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*Galashiels Golf Course 8th Green*

At first, three fields nearest the mansionhouse were laid out in nine short holes, and the first greenkeeper was Jimmy Robertson, who had learned his trade at the Braid Hills course in Edinburgh. The original clubhouse was a simple corrugated iron roof – a very different shack from the present day building.

The amenable Mr Roberts then decided to donate to the Burgh of Galashiels all the ground occupied by the golf course plus another two fields and Appletreleaves House. The Town Council was delighted to accept the offer, and the responsibility for the course was transferred from the golf club committee to the Corporation.

The extra land enabled the development of an 18-hole course, and the new Ladhope lay-out was opened in July 1914.

In the same year, the first Barran Cup competition, which is still competed for on an annual basis, was held on 9 May. The cup was donated by Sir John Barran,

the Liberal MP for the Border Burghs from 1909–1918.

While membership was affected by the outbreak of war in 1914, there was another boost for the club after the conflict in 1919 when Mr Roberts donated additional fields in the lower part of the present day course, and also extensive hill pasture land.

The present day course was laid out by James Braid and Bob Hood, another former Braid Hills man was appointed greenkeeper.

An Open tournament, sponsored to the tune of £300 by the merchants of Galashiels, was staged on 20 and 21 May, 1920, and attracted an impressive international field. James Braid – local knowledge obviously paid dividends! – took the honours with Harry Vardon the runner-up.

Post-war development continued at a rapid rate and in 1922 the Johnstone Cup was donated, and became the Challenge Cup for the annual club championship.

The course has changed little throughout the intervening years, but there was a major development in April, 1992, when the club took over control of the club from Ettrick & Lauderdale District Council, the latter having gained control from the Corporation at the time of local government reorganisation in 1974.

Gaining self control is a major step forward for the club and, at the start of the BGA centenary year, plans are already underway to improve the course under the directorship of greenkeeper, Tim Owen.

The introduction of bunkers is one revolutionary idea, while there may be a resurrection of the plan – first mooted in the 1970s – to alter the lay-out to avoid the notorious steep climbs. No one who plays Ladhope ever forgets the 10th hole!

Ladhope has produced its share of fine Border golfers. Before the Second World War, Reid Welsh, a mill worker, put his name into the history books with victory

in the prestigious Eden Trophy at St. Andrews. He was also the first Galashiels member to win the Border Championship with his victory in 1921.

The only other Ladhope man to have claimed the title was J. W. Gladstone in 1939. Three Ladhope members have served as Border President – Ramsay Miller (1973–74), Bill Jeffrey (1987–88), and Andy Simpson (1991–92). Also Secretary in 1988/89.

Andy's sons, Kenny and Keith have both been regular county players, while they also achieved back-to-back victories for Galashiels in the 1989 and 1990 Challenge Trophy events.

David Miller, son of Ramsay, was another regular county player before his banking career took him to Edinburgh and, more recently, Berwick.

Over the years, a number of Galashiels players have represented the Border with pride, including Billy Taylor, Keith Anderson, Wattie Baxter and Robin Cockburn.

The club has also produced a couple of players good enough to go on and earn a living as professionals. Craig Easton is now working in England, while David Symington is based at the Middlesbrough Golf Centre.

## Hawick

<i>Founded:</i>	1877
<i>Holes:</i>	18
<i>Par:</i>	69: 5,929 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1893
	<i>Founder Member</i>

Three gentlemen, Robert Purdom, Charles Taylor and John Manuel attended the original meeting to form Hawick Golf Club on 13th August, 1877. An application was made to the Town Council to convert



*Robert Purdom*

the Vertish Hill, and subsequently 11 holes were designed by the new Golf Council of the club. Hawick thus became the Borders first official golf club.

Originally, the circuit was played twice (22 holes) until, in 1922, the course was reduced to the conventional 18 holes

by way of playing the same greens twice from different tees. Then, in 1894, 18 separate holes and greens were constructed. Many alterations have since



*Hawick Clubhouse*



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Telephone 75594

Hon. Treasurer:  
R.A. WIGHT  
"Oakhill",  
Braid Road  
Hawick  
Telephone 74217

**The Captain, Council and Members of Hawick Golf Club offer their sincere congratulations to the Border Golfers' Association in their Centenary Year. We are honoured to stage a special exhibition match with Nick Faldo and Colin Montgomerie on Sunday, 22nd August, 1993, at the Vertish Hill, Hawick, on behalf of their sponsors, Pringle of Scotland.**

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**COURSE S.S. 69**

**RECORD HOLDERS -**

**PROFESSIONAL - NICK FALDO 64**

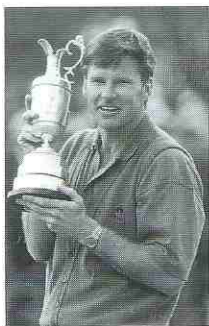
**AMATEUR - ALAN BALLANTYNE 63.**

**HON. MEMBERS**

**NICK FALDO**

**TONY JACKLIN**

**GEORGE MacGREGOR**



*Nick Faldo*

been made over the years, but similarly many of the 1894 holes have been retained.

The present clubhouse was also built in 1894, with the proceeds from a three day bazaar providing much of the necessary finance. The cost of the building amounted to £697 two

shillings and five pence and Lord Dalkeith performed the official opening ceremony on 18th May, 1895.

In 1898, James Barrie, the first Border Golfers' Association Secretary and the then Honorary Secretary, printed a book on the club's history – "Historical Sketch of Hawick Golf Club" – and, as one of the oldest books on golf club history, is now a much valued collector's item.

The first Borderer to hold a position with the Scottish Golf Union was Hawick solicitor, Cameron Conn, who served as President from 1948–50. He was also Secretary of the BGA from 1946–57.

The club celebrated its centenary in 1977, and a Scottish PGA Region Pro-Am was among the many special events.

Professional golf made a return to Hawick in 1989 when Nick Faldo and Tony Jacklin played a charity match over the Vertish Hill, the former going round in a pro record of seven under par 64. The course record is a 63 by past club champion, Alan Ballantyne.



*Hawick Course 3rd Hole*

Faldo and Jacklin are honorary members of the club, as is George MacGregor, the Walker Cup Captain in 1991 and 1993.

With Hawick one of the founder members and James Barrie having been the first Secretary, it follows that Hawick has had a major input in Border Golfers' Association matters.

Barrie served as Secretary and Treasurer from 1893 to 1939, and both posts were then taken over by Cameron Conn. Another two men, G. Gibson and J. Gordon Gilchrist, kept the BGA Secretary and Treasurer posts in Hawick hands until Selkirk's Alex Cleghorn took over in 1964. A post he held for 8 years. Another Hawick man, Drew Deans took over from Alex in 1973 and held that post for 10 years, also serving as a President 1977/78. Border Golfers' should be grateful to the hard working contingents who administered the BGA during the first 100 years.

In addition to the administrative roles, Hawick members also appear regularly on the BGA playing honours lists. C. Todd was the first Hawick man to win the Border Championship in its second year of 1894.

Messer Duncan, whose victories spanned from 1904 to 1920, won the Border Championship title seven times – who says he wouldn't have bettered TT Sanderson's record nine championships if the War had not intervened.

Other BGA stalwarts from Hawick include Sid Telfer, an Honorary Vice-President of the club and a 14 times club champion, and Alex Waldie, another Honorary Vice-President who served as BGA President 1975–76.

W. Burnett won the Border Championship three times and another hat-trick winner was Jimmy Brown, who was later to play out of Torwoodlee.

Hawick also has record wins in the Border Challenge Trophy – 19 since it



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was instituted in 1904 – and, along with Melrose and Peebles, shares a record of six wins in the Border Team Tournament.

As the address, Vertish Hill, suggests, the course is not for the faint-hearted. However, having scaled the heights, the player is rewarded with glorious views of the surrounding Borders countryside.

## *Hirsel*

<i>Founded:</i>	1948
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	70: 5,830 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1959

The first records of a golf course at The Hirsel, home of former Prime Minister Alec Douglas-Home who was the eldest son and heir to the 13th Earl of Home, stretch back into the 1800s, with the Homes building a nine-hole course on some fields near the house.

By the end of the First World War the land had been taken over for crops and it was not reinstated as a golf course. Part of the reason not to re-establish the lay-out was that there was another nine-hole course, on the nearby Lennel Estate.

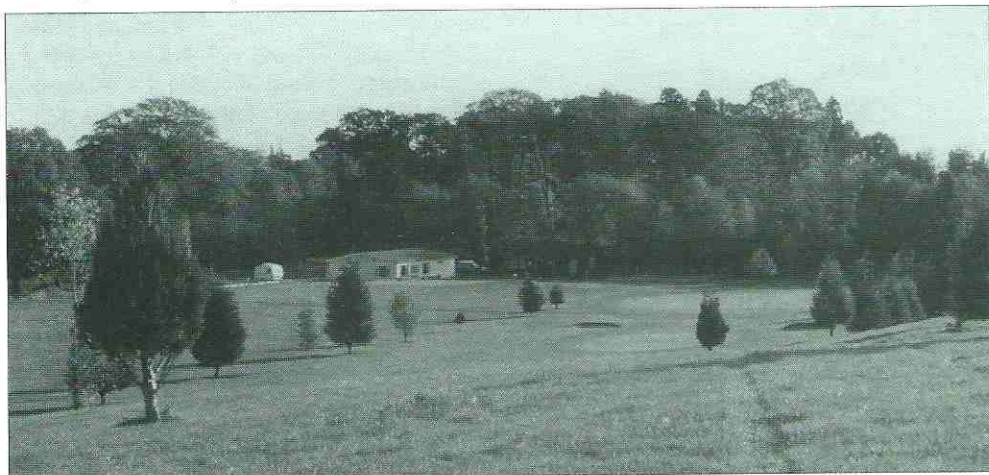
But the same fate befell the Lennel course at the end of the Second World War with the land being taken over for cultivation. Severe flooding also contributed to the need to find a new site.

It was the Lennel Club Captain, Bill Jackson, who initiated proceedings by approaching The Hirsel's Head Factor, Mr Ferguson, with a proposal to construct a new course on the Estate.

The Earl of Home agreed, and Bill Jackson, with the help of a number of volunteers, laid out the new nine-hole course (cost £47!) in 1947. The purchase of two huts for clubhouses – one for men and one for women – added another £70 to the bill.

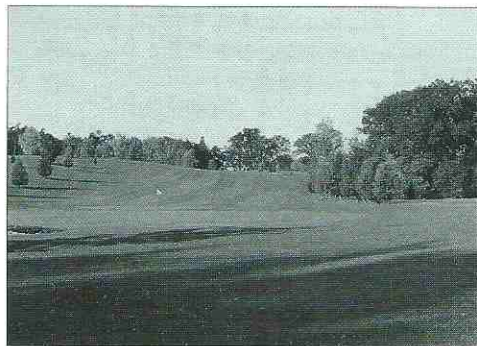
The Hirsel Golf Club was opened officially in 1948, and Bill Jackson was appropriately appointed as the first Captain. The first Club Champion was J. R. Moffat in 1952. The ladies' section had been formed a year earlier and the first Champion was Evelyn Ford.

In the 1970s, The Hirsel Club became famous as the venue for the Cancer Relief Trophy. A charity event in aid of the McMillan Cancer Relief Fund, the competition always attracted a host of celebrities. Ronnie Corbett, Peter Alliss,



*Hirsel Clubhouse*





*The Hirsell Course*

David Huish, Jackie Charlton and Andy Irvine are among the famous names to have made frequent visits to The Hirsell.

A parkland course set in the Hirsell estate, the winding River Leet is an added feature of the picturesque course.

At the start of the Border Golfers' Association centenary year, the course is in the process of being extended to 18 holes. The hope is to have the full circuit ready for play in 1994.

With over 400 members including around 90 juniors, the club continues to grow in strength.

## *Innerleithen*

<i>Founded:</i>	1886
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	68: 5,820 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1893
	<i>Founder Member</i>

The proposal to site a golf course in Innerleithen was first mooted when a meeting was organised by local resident, J. Kidd Brown, in 1884. The original attempt floundered, but, on 22nd September, 1886, the same gentleman chaired a meeting in the Traquair Arms Hotel that resulted in the birth of Innerleithen Golf Club.

Apart from an enforced interruption during the war years, locals and

visitors alike have since enjoyed continuous golf in the delightful setting of the Leithen Valley.

At the opening meeting, which had the support of many local dignitaries, the subscription was set at five shillings, and it was agreed that the four times Open Champion, Musselburgh's Willie Park, should be invited to layout the course. His fee was ten shillings.

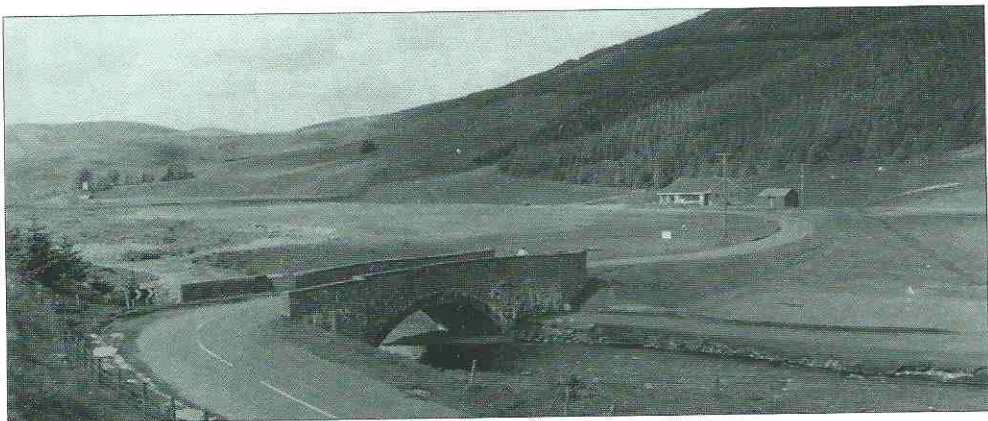
Innerleithen was one of the founder members of the Border Golfers' Association, and regular matches against fellow Border clubs helped in the establishment of the club.

The first handicap medal for regular competition was presented to the club by George Panton in 1887, while, in 1889, Mr Thorburn of Glenormiston presented a Silver Golf Club which remains today the Club Championship trophy. The first greenkeeper, John Turner, was appointed in 1889, and possible changes to the course layout was a common theme for debate. One improvement was the cutting of steps in the hillside to allow easier access to the Hill Hole.

Realising he had a potential goldmine within his grasp, the local farmer, Mr Tait, demanded an increase in rent from £4 to £10 per annum, while he also insisted on a close season during the lambing time. Another confrontation with the landowner came when the land between the fifth and seventh holes were ploughed and planted



*Sir Charles Tennant*



*Bridge over River Leithen towards Innerleithen Clubhouse*

with turnips, and fence posts were driven into the fifth green.

Another hazard was the danger from a nearby rifle range. Perhaps it explains why the standard scratch score was set at 85.

Undaunted by the difficulties, a proposal was put forward in 1895 to erect a clubhouse, and on 4th April, 1896, the new building was officially opened by the Honorary President, Sir Charles Tennant of the Glen.

By the beginning of the century, a Mr Brown had taken over the farm tenancy, and it nearly spelled disaster for the club. During his five years, Brown did his best to interrupt the golfers' pleasure by dumping rubbish on the course, and allowing cattle to graze on the land. In the end, it needed court action to solve the problem in the golf club's favour.

In 1896, fate played its part in helping the course when a flood of the Leithen water, which was originally seen as a disaster, deposited tons of sand on the course and provided the perfect basis for cultured greens. As a result, open champions Harry Vardon and Alex Herd, were invited to the course to take part in a professional challenge match. Herd won by two shots with a 36 holes total of 141.

The course was closed during the Second World War, and when moves were

made to resurrect the club it was discovered that the clubhouse had been burnt down.

Negotiations with the farmer, Miss Brooks, over the lease of the land also hit problems with the possibility of the course having to be reduced to six holes.

However, extra land was then acquired from another farmer, Mr Stewart of Caberston Farm, and the present holes – one, two and three – were established. The course was re-opened for play in 1950.

It was the period between the wars that one of the club's most famous citizens, T. T. Sanderson, began to make his mark.

A wool sorter to trade, T. T. won the club championship as a 17 year old before going on to win the Peebles Club Championship on 15 occasions. A Borders Champion nine times between 1931 and 1964, he won the Border Champion of Champions at Torwoodlee in 1969. The Borders Challenge Trophy was also in his possession four times, twice with both Tom Hobkirk and George Roberts.

Ian Turnbull, a nine times club champion between 1956 and 1973, is another Innerleithen legend. He won the Borders Championship – at Kelso in 1961 – and he reached the fifth round of the Amateur Championship at Turnberry the same year. A scratch golfer, Ian was a



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regular member of the Border teams throughout the 1960s and 70s.

Another multiple Innerleithen Club Champion is seven time winner, Norman Smith. His titles bridged the period from 1968–1985. A regular Border team representative, he was also runner-up in the Border Championship in 1979.

Norman also had the honour of going into the BGA centenary year as holder of the Innerleithen course record – 67.

## Jedburgh

<i>Founded:</i>	1892
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	68: 5,700 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1894

Written records of the club did not begin until 1913, but there is evidence of one member, Walter Rutherford, entering the 1904 Olympics in Paris and winning a silver medal! It is also known that Jedburgh joined the Border Golfers' Association in 1894.

Early records reflect the changes that have occurred in the game through the advancement of equipment. In 1913, when 42 turned out for Captain's Day, the course record stood at 77, and the long driving contest was won with a mark of 210 yards. In the same year the average score worked out at 101. In 1991, the same statistics revealed an average score of 86, with the long drive being in excess of 300 yards.

While club activity suffered at the time of the Great War, the membership subsequently picked up and had reached a total of 185 by 1936. A Dr Nimmo set three course records during the early period, finally setting a total of 67 in 1938.

In 1940, serving officers in the Second World War were charged five shillings to play the course while other ranks were allowed to play free of charge.

During the war sheep were allowed to graze on the course – rules were amended for balls landing in their droppings!

By 1946, membership had dropped to 34, while play was allowed on Sundays, after 1pm, for the first time in 1947.

In 1953, with a grass bunker having been added as a new hazard, Bob Purdie reduced the course record to 66. Three years later the clubhouse gained the addition of a ladies toilet.

Over the next few years there followed a major tree planting programme, the results of which remain an attractive feature of the undulating course, although they also added to the moans of anguish from members and visitors alike.



*Colin Montgomerie and Calum Brown*

In 1968 the standard scratch score was raised from 64 to 66, and subsequently to its present day standing of 67.

The clubhouse was extended to include a lounge and kitchen in 1975, while the modern-day boom in golf has seen the membership rise to 186 men, 35 ladies, 13 youths and 42 juniors.

In 1977, the course record fell to 65 by Derek Davidson, and that mark stood for ten years before being lowered to 63 by Ewan Redpath, who then went on to score 62 in 1991.

In 1991, the club became owners of the course formerly leased by Lothian Estates and the plan is to purchase further



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Weekends ~ £16 round £25 day

*Still vacancies for visiting parties on weekdays.*

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Scratch Open (36 holes)

Sunday May 16th

Handicap Open (18 holes)

Saturday June 26th

Mixed Foursomes

Saturday August 28th

land to extend the layout to 18 holes in the not too distant future.

As part of the club's centenary celebration in 1992, Colin Montgomerie, fresh from having finished third in the US Open, played an exhibition round over the course.

The Ryder Cup Scot set a professional course record of two under par 66, and his visit was one of the highlights of the club's full centenary programme.

## *Kelso*

<i>Founded:</i>	1887
<i>Holes:</i>	18
<i>Par:</i>	70: 6,066 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1893
	<i>Founder Member</i>

Kelso Golf Club was founded in 1887, although there is no doubt that the game was played in a primitive form – a few holes in the ground – as far back as the 17th century. In fact, a Justiciary case of March, 2, 1632, a Kelso man, William Hangetsyde, and his son, Robert, were accused of causing the death of one spectator, Thomas Chatto, while playing golf in the local church grounds.

Whether the incident led to a ban on the game no-one knows. But it was almost 200 years before golf re-emerged in the town's local newspapers. In 1819, reference is made in the Border Almanac of

golf being played on the "Wooden Anna" by the Tweedside Golf Society, while the Kelso Mail of 1821 reports of a similar event.

It was the Kelso Chronicle of May 6, 1887, that indicated the foundation of Kelso Golf Club. Apparently, several local gentlemen had approached the Duke of Roxburghe seeking permission to play the game at Friars Park. His Grace agreed, Kelso Golf Club was established and, by September. T. D. Crichton Smith had been appointed Captain, Allan Stevenson as Treasurer and Secretary, and Walter Rutherford, James Beveridge, William Robson, and Sholto Douglas were the original committee members.

A course of 11 holes was then marked out on the Friars Haugh, a beautiful tract of land between the Tweed and Teviot rivers, and, on October 8, 1887, a party of 15 players enjoyed the first game over the course.

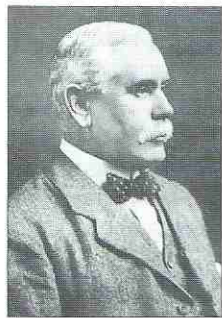
Kelso is proud to note that only three Edinburgh courses – the Royal Burgess, Bruntsfield and Portobello – are older, and that the first golf club in America was not formed until the following year of 1888. Sharing the 1887 "birthday" are Scottish courses – Kilmarnock Barassie, Dumbarton, Dunfermline, Irvine, Kinghorn and Nairn.

The first Kelso Golf Club competition took place on February 4, 1888, and James Newton, with a score of 126, net 104, won the gold badge that was



*Kelso Clubhouse*





*T.D. Crichton Smith*

presented to mark the occasion by T. D. Crichton Smith. By 1889, it had been agreed to change the Friars Haugh course from 11 to 9 holes. But the Kelso golfers were also keen to have their own course, and sights were set on two fields adjacent to Kelso

Racecourse which belonged to Sir Richard Waldie Griffith.

Professional Ben Sayers was asked to oversee the lay-out and, at a cost of £200, the new nine-hole course at Berry Moss, several features of which are still visible today, was constructed and the official opening took place in 1913. The first competition took place on May 31 of the same year and was won, with a gross score of 86 and a net 78, by J. Mercer.

Golf enjoyed a boom period in Kelso following the opening of the new course, and T. D. Gordon Napier set new standards with a score of 69 in a friendly game.

Progress came to a halt during the Great War, but play resumed in 1919, and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales graced the course with his presence during a visit to the Duke of Roxburghe at Floors Castle.

In 1927, a proposal was put forward to extend and alter the course, and another professional, James Braid, was appointed to conduct the changes. In 1929, at an estimated cost of £600–£700, the lay-out was restructured into a longer and more testing nine holes.

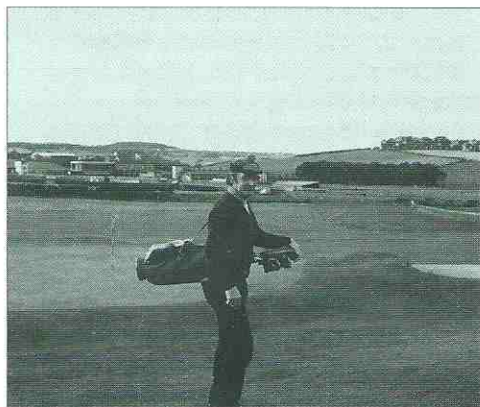
After the Second World War, golf began to play a more prominent role in the Kelso lifestyle, and the membership, both men and ladies, showed a significant increase.

In 1950, the committee raised the

possibility of acquiring the Racecourse House for a Clubhouse. The AGM of March, 1951, expressed thanks to the lady members for the interior decoration of the Clubhouse.

It was in 1972 that the Duke of Roxburghe was first notified of plans to extend the course from 9 to 18 holes and, following long negotiations between the golf club and the racecourse committee, it was agreed, in 1975, that the extension plans drawn up by Club Secretary, John Payne, should be put into operation.

The club had been granted use of “the bog” – an area of land to the right of the old second hole – and the first task was to drain the area. Fourteen new holes were constructed at a cost of around £60,000 and a noted feature of the flat but testing lay-out is the “stank”, an open ditch that runs across six holes. Another idiosyncrasy of the Kelso course is that, due to crossing the racecourse, no golf can be played on race days.



*View of Kelso Course*

The first round over the new course was played on May 9, 1980, and the first four-ball comprised John Payne; Club Captain, George Cessford; his immediate predecessor, Bill Hastie; and the Green-ranger, Frank Manderson.

The Duke of Roxburghe conducted the official opening.



*Duke of Roxburghe opening the new Kelso Golf Course in 1980*

Kelso was one of the founder members of the Border Golfers' Association, and the club's first captain, T. D. Chrichton Smith, achieved the honour of winning the inaugural Border Championship with scores of 93 over Hawick and 89 at Selkirk. The BGA paid a first visit to Kelso in 1897 and 110 golfers turned out for the occasion. The best scratch score was 87, and was returned by three players, John Hardie (Selkirk), C. M. Robertson (Innerleithen), and Walter Rutherford (Jedburgh).

In the club's centenary book it is noted that "Kelso have always regarded BGA competitions as a splendid opportunity for players of whatever standard to play other courses, meet old friends and make new ones. We should be grateful to the BGA for their help in the past and most continue to support them in the years to come". Early heroes at Kelso included founder members T. D. Chrichton Smith and Walter Rutherford. Perthshire-born Chrichton Smith, a solicitor, came to Kelso in the 1880s and, with no course in the town, joined Hawick Golf Club. However, he

initiated the meetings with the Duke of Roxburghe regarding the establishment of the Kelso Club and, as the first Captain, is rightly hailed the "father" of Kelso Golf Club.

Rutherford was one of the first members of Hawick Golf Club before leaving to help set-up the Kelso Club. A five-time Borders Champion, Rutherford had the distinction of at one time holding a plus five handicap. In 1893, he became the inaugural BGA President. In later years, Rutherford was also a member at Jedburgh Golf Club.

More recently, John Forbes Thomas has made a unique contribution to the Kelso club's history. Better known as Ian, Tucker or even Jift, the remarkable player has won the Club Championship 20 times, and has also made his mark in Border Golfers' Association circles as a two-time Border Champion and a four time Challenge Trophy winner (once each with Barry Bain and Joss Hastie and twice with Eckie Bell).

He started young – taking up the game as an 11-year-old – enjoyed a first success aged 15 in the Kelso Boys' Championship, and was a scratch player before he had left his teens.

He also made an early start on the administrative side having been co-opted onto the committee at the age of 18. Since then, he has served as Match and Handicap Secretary, Captain and Greenranger.

Ian Ford was another to earn hero status when he won the 1977 British Boys' Championship at Downfield – a superb feat from a youngster from a wee, nine-hole course. Among his rivals that year were Philip Walton, Paul Way and Andrew Oldcorn, while it was fellow Scot, Colin Dalgleish, who was the one-hole victim in a memorable 36-hole final.

A Scottish Boy and Youth Internationalist, Ian also reached reserve status for the full Scotland senior team. At the start of the BGA centenary year, Ian remains a stalwart in the County line-up.



## Langholm

<i>Founded:</i>	1892
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	70: 5,744 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1923

Langholm Golf Club was founded on 13th October, 1892, and the instigator and founder was Alex Scott. A member of the Scotts of Erkinholme family, it was he who invited a Musselburgh professional, by the name of McEwan, to suggest the most suitable site for a course at Langholm.

With the Crawsknowe fields having been selected, the final plan of the lay-out was put together by James Scott of Kilncleuch House and Mill.

Thomas Moses, a director of the Boatford Mill, was the first Club Captain, Alex Scott was the first President, and the Earl of Dalkeith was appointed Patron.

On 15th October, 1892, the

Langholm Golf Club was officially opened when Alex Scott hit the opening shot from the first tee. In the beginning, subscriptions were 10 shillings and sixpence, while the standard scratch score for the 2 x 9 holes was 100!

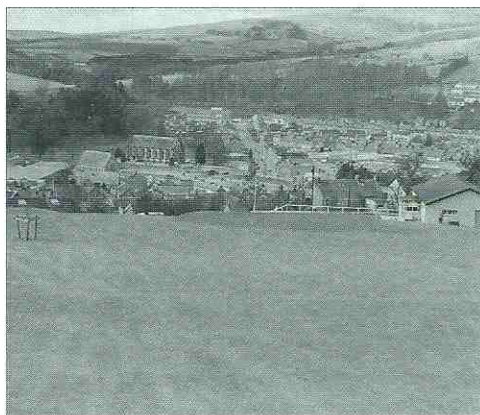
There were several strange, controversial happenings at Langholm during the formative years. The clubhouse, built without permission from local landowner Mr George Maxwell in 1894, had to be removed and the ground restored to grassland on the day of its proposed opening.

Then, in 1902, another neighbouring landowner, Mr Arthur Bell, complained of the members' practice of setting fire to the whins and heather in their search for errant golf balls.

A new clubhouse was built in 1912, while, around the same time and following the arrival of the rubber-cored ball, extensions were made to the length of the holes.



*Official Opening of Clubhouse, June 19th 1982 and Players in Captains Prize Day Competition*



*Langholm Green and Clubhouse*

In 1943, Langholm Golf Club was requisitioned as an Army Training Area, but the club was allowed to continue subject to army requirements.

In the 1930s and early 1940s, membership numbers suffered a sharp decline and in 1946, with figures down to 39 men and 29 women, an approach was made to Langholm Town Council and the Scottish Golf Union to prevent the club going into liquidation. No help was forthcoming, but a public appeal raised over £416 from local donations.

Despite promises of support, membership had dropped to 19 playing members by the time of the AGM in March, 1947, and there were doubts as to whether the club would survive the crisis.

However, in the post-war era, the club went from strength to strength. Inter-club matches were resumed, and Langholm again figured in Border golfing circles.

In 1954, it was decided to purchase the land comprising Langholm Golf Club for the sum of £500, and that preceded a time of growth for the club.

However, in the 1960s, it was another struggle for survival. Membership numbers had again plummeted and extra income had to be earned by letting the course for sheep grazing throughout the winter. Two members had to "adopt" each of

the nine greens in the spring to restore it to prime condition.

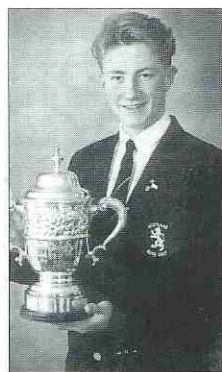
In 1964, the club suffered further misfortune when the Crawsknowe field, an approach to the legendary "Hill Hole" (the fourth), was withdrawn by the owner. Changes to the course were designed by Arthur (Ate) Irving, who won four consecutive Club Championships from 1929, but it was another two years before the new lay-out came into operation.

Bert Weatherstone, winner of seven Club Championships, including six in a row from 1951, dominated the honours roll at Langholm in the 1950s, while the 1960s belonged to eight time champion, David Latimer.

In 1975, committee member John Glendinning raised the possibility of upgrading the semi-derelict clubhouse and upgrading the course. Seven years later, on 19th June, 1982, the new clubhouse was formally opened by the President, Neil Stevenson.

By the mid-1980s, the club was on a sound footing, with over 200 members. At the same time, it was decided to promote the junior scene – a move that is still paying dividends today.

In 1985, President Neil Stevenson announced at a committee meeting that he had purchased some of the land at Crawsknowe, and that he was willing to offer playing rights on an indefinite lease.

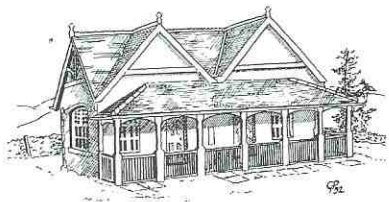


*Graham Davidson*

Plans for re-designing the nine-hole course and extending it by around 250 yards were led by David Latimer, and the new lay-out, at a cost of around £8,000, was completed in 1986. On 1st and 2nd October, 1988, two competitions were staged to



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**Lauder Golf Course** is situated a quarter of a mile from the town of Lauder which is 25 miles south of Edinburgh on the A68.

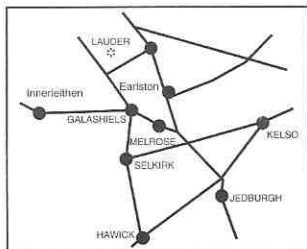
It is a nine hole course measuring 6002 yards. SSS 70, which was first laid out in 1896 on a gentle sloping hill. The course combines a fair test of golf with stunning views of the Lauderdale district.

The club has an association with Mr. W. Park Jr., British Open Champion in 1887 & 1889, who later became a well respected golf course architect.

The clubhouse provides changing facilities and the town of Lauder has a number of hotels which would provide accommodation and catering facilities for club and society outings.

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inaugurate the new lay-out and another chapter in the club's history was complete.

In 1989, the youth policy introduced four years earlier gained its reward when Craig Hislop was selected to represent Scotland at boys level. In 1991, he went on to win the Scottish Boys Championship.

Graham Davidson, son of centenary year Captain, Irving Davidson, and a three times Border Boys Champion, also brought Langholm recognition by winning the 1990 Douglas Gillespie Scottish Under-16 Championship before going on to play for the Scottish Boys team in 1991 and 1992. In 1991 he won the prestigious Daily Telegraph Junior Golfer of the Year award at Penina in Portugal.

At the start of the BGA centenary year, Graham had just taken up a scholarship at the Midland College, Texas.

Langholm Golf Club celebrated its centenary in 1992, and in recognition of their part in the club's history, life membership was conferred on President Neil Stevenson, Vice-President David Latimer and Bert Weatherstone.

On Sunday, 22nd March, 1992, Captain Irving Davidson officially launched the centenary playing season by driving a ball from the first tee.

Langholm's connection with the Border Golfers' Association stretches back to 1893. In that year, a letter from Hawick's James Barrie was received, and it invited Langholm to become a member of the newly-proposed association. However, no action was taken and the chance to become a founder member was gone.

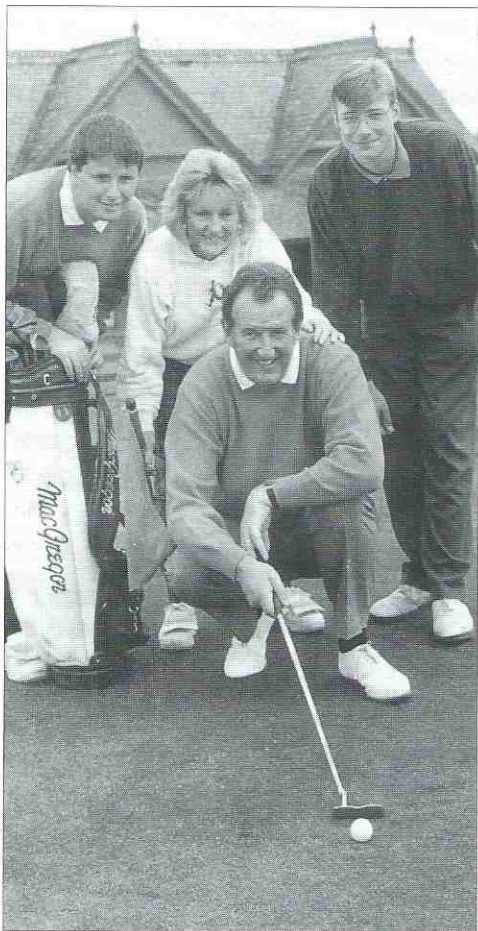
Another thirty years elapsed before the club joined the Border Golfers' Association family on 1st March, 1923. During the club's troubled years around the Second World War, Langholm dropped out of the BGA. However, it rejoined in 1949, and has since gone on to play an active part in the association's activities.

## Lauder

Founded:	1896
Holes:	9
Par:	72: 6,002 yards
Joined BGA:	1964

Lauder was first laid out as a golf course on a gentle sloping hill half a mile outside the town and with fine views overlooking Lauderdale.

Willie Park, Jnr., the two-time Open Champion, assisted with the construction of the nine-hole course, and he



*Lauder Members with Professional David Huish*



still holds the professional course record of 70, set back in 1905.

The clubhouse was added in 1912 and the course flourished throughout the early years.

However, during the Second World War, the club was forced to close with the on-course activity being confined to Polish tanks.

However, in 1962, a Lauder-born gentleman, Mr Scroggie, who had served as a Police Commissioner in Edinburgh, activated the reformation of the club, and donated £500 to get the project started. At that time the course was owned by the local council.

However, 29 years later, the club passed another milestone by securing a long-term lease from Ettrick & Lauderdale District Council.

The new arrangement has resulted in a number of improvements. The greens and tees have been improved, while the planting of trees was one of the many cosmetic improvements.

The only Lauder member to have achieved County recognition in the Border Golfers' Association first 100 years was Alastair McDonald. A banker, Alastair achieved an impressive double in 1978 when he won both the Border Youths' Championship and the Border Champion of Champions.

Further Border honours came Lauder's way when Tony Baxter was appointed BGA President in 1981–1982.

In August 1992 – to celebrate the first anniversary of acquiring the lease – the North Berwick professional, David Huish, held a clinic at the club, at which several Border Golfers' Association dignitaries were present.

At the start of the BGA centenary year, the aim of the Lauder Club is, in the words of Secretary, David Dickson "to get Lauder back on the Borders golf map". The committee hope to stage a BGA event within the not too distant future.

## Melrose

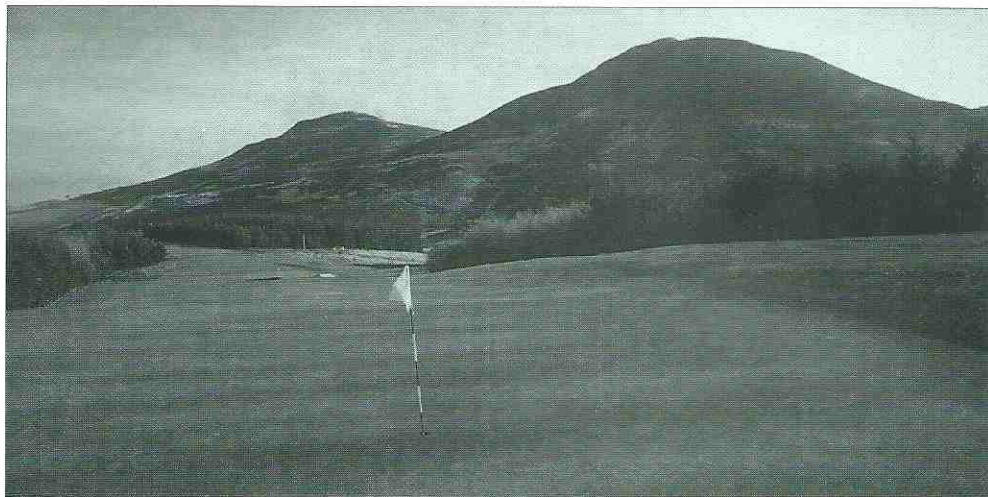
<i>Founded:</i>	1880
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	70: 5,579 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1893
<i>Founder Member</i>	

Although not officially founded until April 3rd, 1880 – thereby becoming the second oldest Borders course behind Hawick (1877) – there are records of Melrose having a course, consisting of eight holes on Dingleton Common, stretching back to 1874. The course was then upgraded to a more conventional nine holes, and progressive changes have been made on the same site over the years.

Among the original club members were Mr A. Curle, who served as the first President and remained in office until 1886, John Freer (Secretary and Treasurer) and Dr Grierson, who became the first honorary life member in 1888.



*First President: Mr Alexander Curle 1880-1886*



*The 4th Green with the Eildon Hills as a backdrop.*

The first record of an annual general meeting was on March 8th, 1883, at the town's Commercial Hotel when Mr A. T. Simpson took the chair.

But it was another 24 years – 1907 – before the first records of the Constitution and Rules of Melrose Golf Club appeared in the Minute Books.

During the early part of the century, membership numbers flourished, and a greenkeeper's workshop was built in 1910 (now the bottle store for the bar).

During the Second World War, the course was all but neglected. However, an extraordinary general meeting held at Burt's Hotel on March 20th, 1946 – chaired by William Lawrie – set about reviving the club.

The first priority was to appoint a greenkeeper – and it was only thanks to a successful fund-raising campaign that the club stayed afloat. As David Mackenzie states in his book "A History of Melrose Golf Club" (1979): "It is thanks to the work and enthusiasm of those members who wished to make the club viable again that it has continued to the present day."

Money-making ventures continued to help the club flourish throughout the latter part of the 1940s and, in 1948, a first club

outing took place, with Longniddry the chosen venue. The outing became an annual event.

In 1950, a successful application was made to Melrose Town Council to allow Sunday golf, while, in 1952, St Boswells Golf Club was granted permission to stage their competitions on the course – their own had been out of commission since the late 1950s.

The club continued to flourish through the 1960s, and 1972 saw the addition of a clubhouse bar.

Early in 1974, the Secretary, Mr John Harris, submitted a draft release between the Town Council and the Golf Club for a 21-year lease. The lease was duly signed on March 5th, 1974.

In the early years, the Melrose course was relatively short. But a new nine-hole lay-out was officially opened on September 29th, 1888, and, it is recorded, measured a mile in length.

Refinements to the course (principally changes to the 4th and 5th holes) were discussed at a meeting in 1895, and professionals, Tom Morris and Willie Park, Jnr., visited the course and suggested improvements.



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In April, 1896, landowner, the Duke of Buccleuch, granted permission for the changes to take place, and the new holes, named Klondyke and Butts, were officially opened in May, 1897.

In 1898 a request to have the sheep removed from the course obviously fell on deaf ears as the records show that in 1909 all the greens were fenced to avoid damage from the grazing animals.

In 1912, the course underwent changes including the construction of a new 5th green.

The following year, the Town Council made contact with the Earl of Dalkeith concerning the construction of an 18-hole municipal course. But there were no developments.

After the First World War, many changes took place to the course. In 1920, the Town Council set in motion plans to purchase the golf course from the Duke of Buccleuch, and the sale was completed the following year for the sum of £1,500 plus £100 to cover expenses.

In 1922, a meeting was held to discuss further alterations to the course. The President, Mr A. T. Roberts presented a plan, reversing the present direction of the course, as had been suggested by the renowned American golf course architect, Donald Ross. But, after much discussion, it was decided to retain the course's present form despite the offer of a £1,000 interest-free loan from the then President, Mr A. T. Roberts.

A new plan for course improvements was lodged in September 1925 by Henry Wilson, a former greenkeeper who had moved on to become professional at Sidcup.

Subsequently, new tees and greens at the 1st and 2nd holes were put in place, and the 3rd was also altered and became a short hole. During 1935, new tees were built at the 4th, 6th, 7th and 9th holes.

Little development took place during the years of the Second World War.

But the upgrading continued in the late 1940s with a new 4th green and much cosmetic work benefiting the lay-out.

Grazing animals – sheep and cows – gave frequent cause for members' complaints throughout the club's first 79 years. However, in 1959, the town Council listened to the club's wishes and ruled out grazing on the course from June to August.

The year 1971 heralded the start of a number of changes. The grazing sheep issue again raised its head, and, since December 31st, 1978, they have been excluded from the course.

A course improvement plan was submitted to the Town Council in 1971 and, at the 1972 AGM, it was agreed to remodel the 1st, 5th and 6th tees and the 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 9th greens.

Other improvements throughout the 1970 and 1980s included the addition of a variety of trees.

The developments have continued into the 1990s, and the recent changes included the digging of a gully at the short 3rd, thus removing the blind hole element, and the planting of trees to shield the course from the road. The new trees have also helped protect the course, and the players, from the wind.

The first recorded Standard Scratch Score for the course was 78, which was decided by the Border Golfers' Association in 1896. Today the SSS is 68 (Par 70).

The first course record was a 78 by Frank T. Robertson in 1882. Today the



*Melrose Clubhouse*



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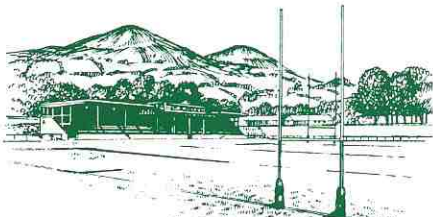
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mark stands at 62 set by Graeme Matthew in 1990.

The Melrose Clubhouse, officially opened in 1882, has maintained its original site, but has been extended and upgraded throughout the club's history.

Melrose was among the founder members of the Border Golfers' Association, and has played a major role in its development.

Melrose's John Dickson (1895) was an early President of the BGA, while John Hart served in a similar capacity from 1955 - 1964.

David Campbell, who was the first winner of the Hart Trophy, the Borders Boys' Championship in 1960, went on to keep Melrose at the forefront of Scottish golf throughout the next 25 years. Winner of the two Border Championships, Campbell was unfortunate not to win a full Scottish cap.

John Harris, the 1962 Melrose Club Champion, also served with distinction in an administrative capacity both for his own club and the BGA. He was President of the BGA from 1970-1972, and served for four years (1972-1976) as the Borders representative on the Scottish Golf Union Executive. From 1974-1976, he was President of the South East District of the SGU. In 1977, he was awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Melrose Club.

John Wood brought acclaim to Melrose when he became the first Borderer to be selected to represent the Scottish Boys' team. He competed in the annual match against England in 1957. The following year he played for the British Boys' team and, in 1961, became the first Borderer to feature in a Scottish Youths' line-up. On that occasion, he won both his singles and foursomes.

Leslie Wallace, the 1985 Borders Champion, served as non-playing Captain of the BGA from 1991. He was a Border team regular throughout the 1970's and 80's. Kenny Stobie was another County stalwart in the 1980's.

## Minto

<i>Founded:</i>	1928
<i>Holes:</i>	18
<i>Par:</i>	68: 5,228 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1956

It was in 1928 that a Fifer, Jim Murray, the underfactor for the Minto Estates, approached Lord Minto with the proposition of establishing a nine-hole golf course.

The suggestion was accepted and Douglas Oliver, proprietor of Hawick Auction Mart, provided the manpower to construct the picturesque parkland lay-out situated within the Teviot Valley.



*Minto 1st Tee*

Jim Murray, a fine golfer in his own right, provided advice as to the course's construction, and stones from Minto Crags were used to build up the land.

In 1979, the Minto course was extended to 18 holes, use being made of the area around the Minto Hills. Trees provide the principal and most natural hazards, while each hole offers a unique challenge. The 12th (Everest) is renowned throughout the Borders.

Originally, a clubhouse was situated near the present 6th hole, but was subsequently moved to its present site with the help of a grant from the Scottish Tourist Board.





*The New Clubhouse opened in 1991*

In 1991, Minto became the envy of the majority of Border clubs with the construction of a magnificent new clubhouse. The building was designed and built by Oliver Homes of Hawick, and was formally opened by Hawick Provost Myra Turnbull on May 24th, 1991.

Reflecting the course's picturesque qualities, the club boasts a sizeable country membership, with players from Scandinavia and Germany figuring in the list.

The club has produced several outstanding players. A regular Border and South-East District Player, Ian Oliver, has won the Club Championship on nine occasions including seven in a row from 1969.



*The New Minto Clubhouse Official Opening 1991 by Hawick Provost Myra Turnbull with far left Club Captain Dennis Stone and Lord Minto*

His career record also includes seven Border Championship Runner-Up places but, unfortunately, a first victory has remained elusive. However, he did get his name on one of the BGA major trophies with a win in the 1977 Champion of Champions.

Another Minto stalwart is the unrelated, Kenny Oliver, son of Douglas, who has served as Club Captain on three separate occasions, and has also won a hat-trick of Championships.

## *Newcastleton*

<i>Founded:</i>	1894
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	70: 5,748 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1979

The Copshaw Golf Club was founded in 1894 when local villagers, the Reverend William Massie and Doctor R. Evans, got together and decided to form a committee to start a golf club.

The initial subscription was set at two shillings and six pence and in the first year there were 47 men – including two from St. Andrews – and 10 lady members. The course was originally leased from the Buccleuch Estates at an annual cost of one shilling.

The Liddesdale Gold Medal and the Gowan Cup were among the early competitions, while Newcastleton staged several inter-club matches against fellow Border Clubs.

In 1904 the club folded – something to do with the Boer War? – but was restarted in 1920 with 25 men and 15 lady members.

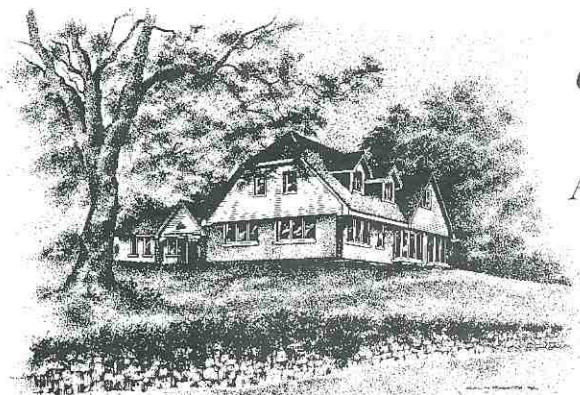
In common with many throughout Britain, Newcastleton was taken over during the Second World War with the land being needed for the home effort.

It was another 35 years, 1974, before Copshaw again had a course. Following a meeting in the Village Hall, F. Ewart was appointed Secretary/Treasurer,



# Minto Golf Club

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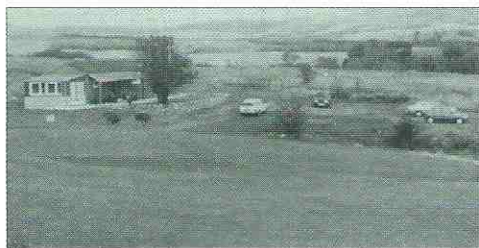
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DAY TICKET	weekday	£18
	weekend	£25
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*Newcastleton 9th Green and Clubhouse.*

and a committee was formed under the chairmanship of the local bank manager, Ken Palmer.

Most of the design work was carried out by the locals – it was decided to do away with the previous lay-out of criss-crossing fairways – while Duddingston professional, John Shade, was engaged to add a touch of expertise.

In all, six new fairways and five new greens were laid out and, with little money at the committee's disposal, there were times when the club hovered, once again, on the brink of extinction.

However, survive it did, and with the increased tourist trade the golf club has thrived in recent years. In 1991, the small clubhouse gained the added facilities of kitchen, changing facilities and toilets.

The club is now looking forward to celebrating its centenary in 1994.

## *Peebles*

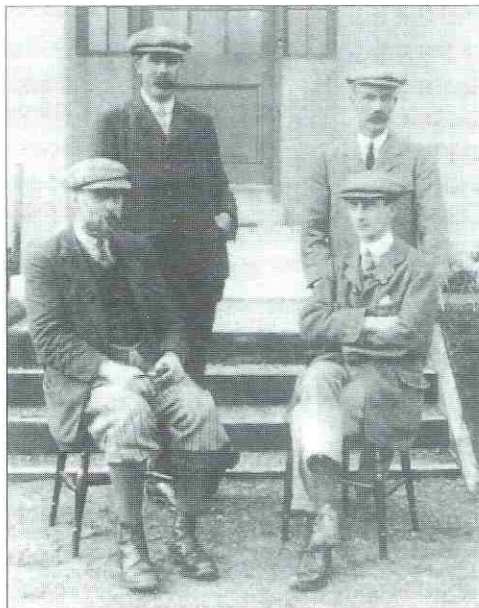
<i>Founded:</i>	1892
<i>Holes:</i>	18
<i>Par:</i>	70: 6,137 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1893
	<i>Founder Member</i>

A notice in the *Peebles Advertiser* on 8th October, 1892, invited interested parties to attend a meeting to discuss the institution of a golf club – nine days later Peebles Golf Club held its first committee meeting.

The Morning Hill, on the farm of Edderston, about a mile south of the town, was selected as a suitable site, and the land owner, Lord Wemyss, agreed to a 21-year lease.

Willie Park, the 1889 Open Champion from Musselburgh, was invited to lay-out the course and Lord Wemyss was appointed President, Mr H. Ballantyne, the Club Captain, and Mr W. Lyon and Mr A. Yellowlees, the secretary and treasurer respectively. The initial subscriptions were, men – 15 shillings, women – five shillings, and juniors under 15 years of age – two shillings and six pence.

There was a flurry of activity during the early years. Peebles was one of the founder members of the Border Golfers' Association, and a clubhouse was constructed at a cost of £102. John Duncan of Elie was appointed as the first greenkeeper. Mr Ballantyne ensured early competition by presenting three club medals for men, women and boys.



*James Braid, Sir Henry Ballantyne, James Nelson, John Lyon. August 4th 1910*



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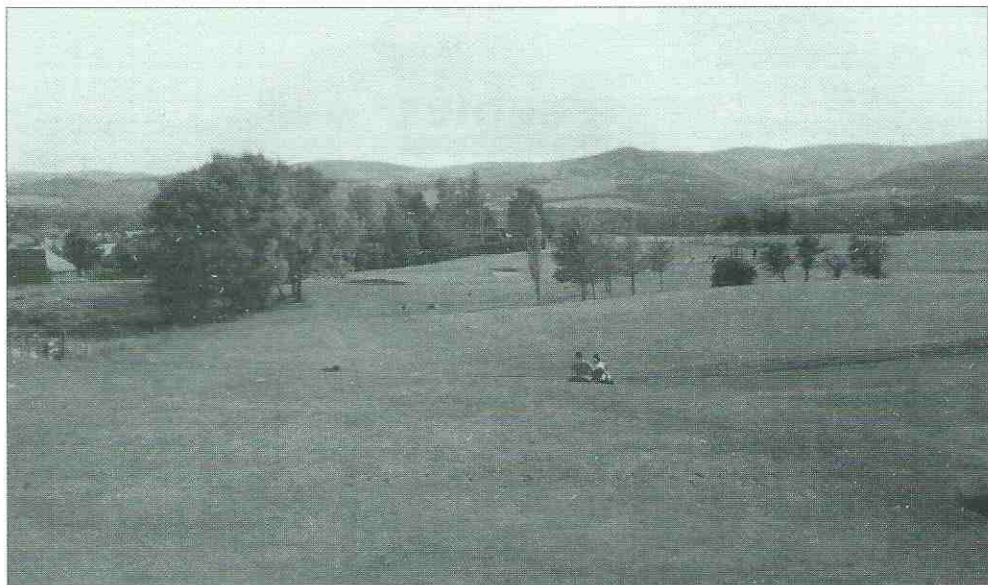
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*The picturesque rolling fairways of Peebles Golf Course*

The official opening took place on 8 April, 1893, by Mr W. Thorburn, the local MP. To mark the occasion, Mr Thorburn was presented with a silver mounted club. Now known as "The Captain's Putter", this valuable possession is now played for annually in the opening medal of the season. In 1908 the Club moved to Kirklands. Records of the reasons for the switch are scant but, at the AGM of 1908, it was announced that the sum of just over £607 had been allocated for the new course.

The Kirklands course was laid out by Elie-born professional James Nelson – he received five guineas for his work – and the opening took place on 1 July, 1908. Fittingly, James Nelson set the first course record of 70, 38 out and 32 back.

Nelson went on to reduce the mark to 68 in 1910, and then had the chance to take on the reigning Open Champion, James Braid, on a memorable occasion for the club on 4 August, 1910. Braid won the match by six shots with a 70. However, Nelson continued to lower the record, the mark dropping to 65 in 1912.

Also in 1912, R. J. Inglis won the Border Championship.

The onset of war heralded the start of hard times for the club. A bank overdraft was required, the clubhouse was taken over by the military and only 14 holes were available for use. And at a general meeting of the club in February, 1917, it was decided that the course should be reduced to nine holes, and the rest of the land be put under the plough and used for grazing.

Falling membership and an ever increasing overdraft resulted in the meeting of August, 1918, "to consider and decide as to the winding up of the club". As a result it was agreed that the club be dissolved and that the Town Council would establish a municipal golf course.

The first meeting of the newly-formed Peebles Municipal Golf Course took place in October, 1918. The course was still at Kirklands, but several alterations were made in the winter of 1921 with the layout being extended westwards towards the picturesque Jedderfield Plantation (Neidpath Wood).

By 1922, the club was back to full health and Peebles golfers were once again well to the fore in the County, with C. J. Anderson winning the 1924 Border Championship. In 1926, the professional A. W. Butchart brought further acclaim to the club when he finished runner-up to Tom Wilson in the Scottish Professional Championship at Bruntfield in Edinburgh.

In 1933, a required extension to the town cemetery resulted in the need to alter the layout of the course, and redevelopment to along the present day lines took place in 1933–1934. The architect was Harry S. Colt and was designed as two “loops”. Colt’s first “loop” of nine is now played as the inward half, while the planting of trees and bushes has, over the years, improved the design.

The club’s golfers have played a significant part in the well-being of the BGA. Tom Ballantyne was the first Peebles member to win the Border Championship, in 1905. A feat that he went on to repeat three years later.

A. T. Kyle, who moved to Peebles with his family when he was only months old, also brought golfing fame to the Border town. He won the Border Championship in 1929 and 1930, and scored numerous successes in open events.

In 1931, Alex moved to Yorkshire and went on to play in the 1938, 1947 and 1951 Walker Cup matches, and he made 21 appearances for Scotland in the Home Internationals. T T Sanderson, who began his career at Innerleithen and was a record nine time Border Champion, won fifteen Peebles Club Championships between 1936-67. Tom Fairbairn was another distinguished member. Border Champion in 1948, he served as the Area’s SGU representative from 1955-66, Border President from 1965-66 and South-East District President from 1968-69.

Paul Gallagher brought Peebles national acclaim when he won the 1974

Scottish Boys' Strokeplay Championship, and went on to represent his country at Boys' and Youths' level. He was also a reserve for Great Britain and Ireland Youth honours.

Allan Turnbull, who was aged 17 when becoming the youngest ever winner of the Border Championship in 1984, also won international honours. In 1984, he represented Scotland, and Great Britain and Ireland at Boys' level. The following season he won the Leven Gold Medal and played for the Scottish Youths' team.

In 1978, the course record of 64 was set by Melrose's David Campbell, in 1978, and was later equalled by seven time club champion, Kenny Wells, in 1982.

After much hard work by the committee, the leasing of the club from Tweeddale District Council came to fruition in March 1991. The Council agreed to lease the course and clubhouse to Peebles Golf Club Ltd.

The club celebrated its centenary in 1992, and to mark the event a centenary stone bridge was built over the burn at the short 16th.

As the Peebles centenary book “From Morning Hill to Kirklands” concludes: “In one hundred years, golf in Peebles has turned almost full circle. Morning Hill to Kirklands; private club to municipal club and back to private club.”

As regards the BGA, Peebles, as a founder member, has played a large part in its development. The course is a regular venue for BGA events, and has provided numerous County players - Kenny Wells, Kenny Allan, Stuart Duncan, Walter Forsyth and John Logan - in recent years.

The Club has hosted a number of national events, including the Scottish Assistant Professionals' Championships, the 1984 Scottish Girls' Championship and the 1988 Scottish Boys' Area Team Championship.



# David Harrison

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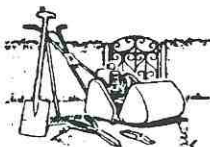
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# Selkirk

<i>Founded:</i>	1883
<i>Holes:</i>	9
<i>Par:</i>	68: 5,620 yards
<i>Joined BGA:</i>	1893
	<i>Founder Member</i>

For anyone who regards golf as a lazy game, they would do well to take a trip to Selkirk. It is definitely a course where stamina plays an important role.

As stated in the club's centenary book of 1983, "What must have been a near impossible task confronted those who first introduced golf to Selkirk . . . to convert a heather and gorse-clad hill into a golf course is enough to quail the stoutest heart."

The first proposal to construct a golf course in Selkirk came at a meeting of the Town Council when a letter from prominent local solicitor, Mr D. C. Alexander, was read requesting permission to lay out a course on Selkirk Hill.

Permission to extend the layout over nine holes was granted, although a few councillors did object on the grounds that "the game was a dangerous one and people might get injured".

However, with the fears allayed, a meeting was held in the Fleece Hotel and a

committee was formed on 17 May, 1883, with John Turnbull as President, Thomas Smith as Captain, and the aforementioned D. C. Alexander as Secretary and Treasurer. The latter retained his post for 14 years and deservedly gained the title "Father of Selkirk Golf".

A fee of five shillings was set as the annual subscription, and, reflecting the committee's enthusiasm, the course was laid out and the first competition played within a month of the club's formation.

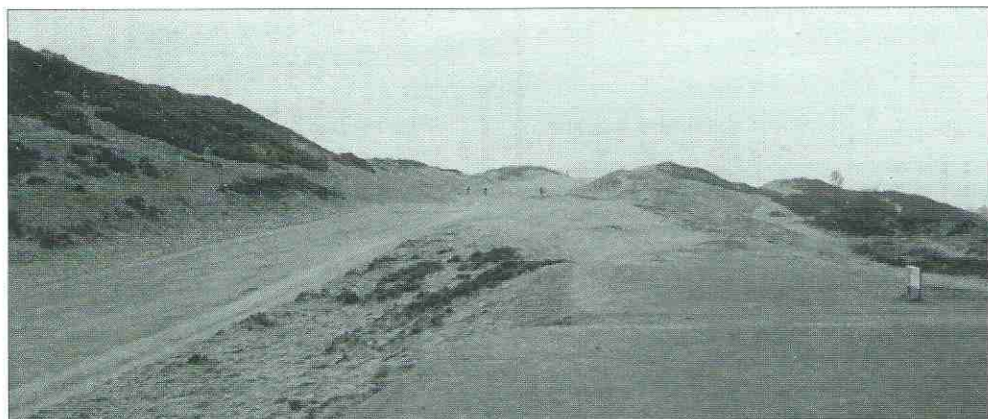


*D.C. Alexander*

Mr Alexander donated a set of clubs for the first prize, and while the course could hardly have been described as "mature", G. T. Scott with a gross 124, net 100, claimed the first place spoils and a niche in Selkirk's history.

With the club unable to afford a greenkeeper, and the course bordered by heather, it was little wonder that early scores soared into the 100s – or higher!

A year after its foundation, Selkirk enjoyed its own golf "boom" when the membership increased from 13 to 37, and in 1885 the first clubhouse was erected on



*View of Selkirk's 8th Hole*

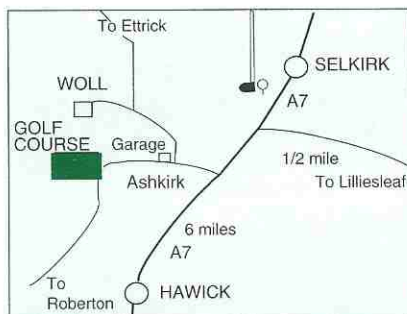


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the fairway in the vicinity of the present 1st green.

The building was doubled in size in 1891 before being dismantled in 1924 and transported to its present site beside the Clubhouse where it still serves a purpose as a boys' locker room and greenkeeper's tool shed.

It was in 1886 that the first Club Championship was staged, Dr Muir having presented a trophy especially for the occasion. The first champion was W. H. Robson who, having finished all square after the regulation nine holes, went on to defeat D. M. Mackintosh in a three hole play-off.

The first player to break 80 over Selkirk was J. Thomson in 1887, a feat that enticed Open Champion Willie Park and a former Scottish Champion, David Brown, to visit the course. Park beat Thomson's score by a solitary stroke.

The following year a professional event was staged at the club with 12 of Scotland's leading players competing for the £25 top prize. David Brown was the winner with a 36-hole total of 154.



*The Original Border Challenge Trophy  
Won outright by Selkirk in 1892*

Selkirk holds a privileged place in the Border Golfers' Association history. One of the founder members, the club had also been involved in preliminary discussions and proved their right to be considered the

region's leading club with three successive victories in the first Border event.

With Hawick, Melrose, Innerleithen and Kelso as the opposition, Selkirk won the inaugural Border Golf Challenge Trophy in 1890 and successful defences in 1891 and 1892 earned the club the right to keep the trophy.

Selkirk have had two abortive attempts to extend the layout to 18 holes, once in the 1920s and more recently in 1970. However, a successful reconstruction of the course and plans to build a new clubhouse came about in 1921.

At this time, George Burnside was employed as greenkeeper, and it was under his instructions that the re-planning took place and was completed in 1923. The new course measured 2,878 yards – an increase of 90 yards, but 98 yards shorter than the present layout.

At the same time, the Selkirk club purchased the adjoining Loanhead Cottage and grounds, and it was on this site that the new clubhouse was erected.

In 1933 the club celebrated its 50th Jubilee, and the club champion that year was J. T. Miles who beat the up and coming youngster Alex Cleghorn, by four and three.

Golf took a back seat during the Second World War but the club did keep going through the period, and again flourished in the 1950s. New developments included the introduction of Sunday play in 1958, and the opening of a bar in 1969.

Dick Smith, the 1959 Walker Cup player and boys caps, Murray Cleghorn and Donald Ballantyne are Selkirk members to have sported Scottish international colours, while Alex Cleghorn has contributed much to Scottish (and Border!) golf in both a playing and administrative capacity.

Jocky Hume, who played a major role in helping compile this book, also brought honours to Selkirk, winning the Border Championship in 1977, and serving as BGA President in season 1989–90.



## *St. Boswells*

Founded:	1899
Holes:	9
Par:	66: 5,250 yards
Joined BGA:	1900

St. Boswells was established as a club on 11th April, 1899, and the course was formally opened on 25th August of the same year by the Earl of Dalkeith, MP. A half-day holiday was observed in the village and the original committee comprised Captain T. L. Stirling, President R. Somerville, and a council of Dr Oliver, J. J. Fairbairn,

W. E. Ballantyne, B. Hunter and Dr Ritchie.

The course was laid out by the former Open Champion from Musselburgh, Willie Parker jnr., and the first match against Selkirk was played on 28th September, 1899.

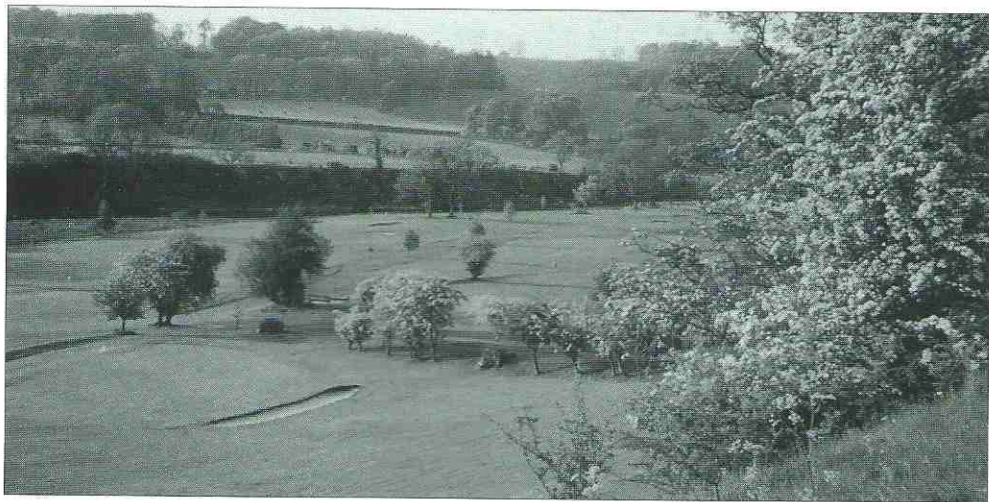
The first recorded handicap event was held on 4th October, 1899, and was won by W. Hood with a net score of 116 (20).

In 1902, thanks to various fund raising efforts, the first clubhouse was built and major course improvements were undertaken.

During the First World War the course did fall into a state of neglect, but the club survived and during the early 1930s moves were made to find alternative sites for the course. A plan was prepared for a layout at Hiltonshill Farm, but the scheme fell through and the onset of the Second World War saw the club close down.

However, in 1946 a general meeting was called, and a proposal put forward to re-open the club was passed unanimously after Mrs Norman Ritchie offered to hold a fête in her garden at the Holmes. Unfortunately, rebuilding plans were blighted by a flood of the River Tweed in August 1948. The damage was such that the club could not afford, in either manpower or money, to clear the land of the rocks, sand and shingle and the club was wound up in 1950.

As part of the closure, the clubhouse and greenkeeping equipment was sold and, more seriously, the lease was abandoned. An informal arrangement was made to play some of the competitions at Melrose, but events were poorly attended and subsequently suspended.



*St Boswells Course*

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*George Owens*

In 1957, Mr L. A. Morrison and Mr G. B. Owens secured 112 signatures interested in their suggestion to resurrect the club, and Duddingston professional, John Shade, laid out a new nine hole course on the original site. At a special meeting on 5th February, 1958, it was agreed to reform the club.

The following few years proved difficult as only a sublet could be attained from the tenant farmer. However, hardwork was rewarded when the club became playable in 1959. On two occasions between 1965 and 1975, the club was given notice to quit by the landowner, but thankfully, the moves were resisted and the club membership continued to grow.

It was on 30th May, 1979, that the club made the decision to purchase the course, and a sum of £28,000 was paid to Colonel May, who had purchased the Bankhead Farm site just two years previously. Financial assistance for the project was gratefully received from the Scottish Sports Council and Ettrick &

Lauderdale District Sports Council. Several members also made contributions through interest free loans which, thanks to several fund-raising exercises, were repaid within 18 months.

A new clubhouse was built and formally opened in September 1985, and the buying of the course injected a new enthusiasm into the club which has continued through to the present day.

Reflecting their contribution to the development and well-being of St. Boswells, Honorary Life Memberships were awarded to Mrs Ritchie (1947), W. E. Ballantyne (1951), Bruce Burrell (1974), and George Owens (1985).

St. Boswells became the tenth member when joining the BGA on 8th March, 1900. The club records of that year note: "Mr W. E. Ballantyne and Mr John Scott were delegated to attend a meeting of the Border Golfers' Association held at Galashiels on 8th March, when St. Boswells was formally admitted to the membership – charge one pound one shilling."

In latter years Mr Ballantyne's nephew W.W. (Watto) Ballantyne gave many years service to the BGA both as an administrator and a County player.

George Owens, the first born and bred Borderer to serve as President of the Scottish Golf Union (1992), is Secretary of St. Boswells Golf Club and it is principally through his endeavours that the club has flourished throughout the past 45 years (see profile section).

A glance at the Club Championship board also reflects the Owen's influence. Since 1959, George and his sons, Kenneth and Colin, have won the title on all but eight occasions.

Colin was the Border Champion in 1987, while the pair have won the Borders Challenge Trophy for St. Boswells three times, and also helped the Borders twice reach the finals of the Scottish Area Team Championships at Haggis Castle and Cardross Golf Club.



*Torwoodlee Club House*

## ***Torwoodlee***

Founded:	1895
Holes:	9
Par:	68: 5,720 yards
Joined BGA:	1896

Torwoodlee Golf Club was formed in 1895. It was a breakaway from the Galashiels Club (some members had become fed up with animal grazing and restricted summer play!), and several of the trophies came with the package.

The 37 acres of land to construct a nine-hole course was obtained from Captain Pringle of Pringle Estates, and the Musselburgh professional, Willie Park, Jr., advised on the lay-out of the holes.

On October 30th, 1895, Mrs Pringle drove the first ball, and, with the lease costing £2 per acre, Torwoodlee Golf Club was declared officially open. Three years later, a clubhouse, which had been transported from Dunfermline, was erected in the middle of the course.

Willie Park and fellow professional, Ben Sayers, played an exhibition match during the early years, and it was on the latter's suggestion that

bunkers were added at four of the last five holes. James Braid also provided help on refinements to improve the course during the early 1900s.

Unfortunately, lack of funds prevented further changes, and a plan to extend the course to 18 holes in 1911 had to be knocked back.

In 1925 a further series of Braid's suggested alterations were carried out, while a new clubhouse, on the present site adjacent to the first hole, was built in 1932. Mrs Pringle performed the opening day honours.

A Torwoodlee stalwart, Alex Crombie, who had served as greenkeeper, professional and clubmaster for 41 years, retired in 1938 and was awarded life membership. David Wright, from Gullane, then took over the position.

In 1972, the Torwoodlee Club took the momentous decision to purchase the nine holes and, with the aid of a £4,000 grant from the Scottish Sports Council, the sum of £8,500 was duly handed over to Pringle Estates.

Five years later, the club laid on a watering system to all greens, and in 1978 the clubhouse was improved and extended.





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*Towards the 3rd Tee*

Throughout the 1980s, many cosmetic changes were made, including an extensive tree-planting programme that has continued into the 1990s. Torwoodlee has nurtured the careers of many good players. Reid Welsh dominated the scene between 1924 and 1936 by winning the Club Championship 11 times.

Jimmy Brown, a plus one man and a three-times Border Champion, matched that total between 1947 and 1969.

In 1952, Ian Crowe, who went on to turn professional and found employment in the Bahamas, shot a course record 66. It was subsequently lowered in 1969 to 65 by eight-times Champion, Dick Livingstone. In 1981 this was lowered again to 64 by Robby Rutherford, who the previous year had won the National Long Driving Competition. Equalled in 1984 by the current Secretary Alistair Wilson.

In 1989, Stanley Mayer, a former assistant Rector of Galashiels Academy, became the first Torwoodlee member to win a national title when he won the Scottish Seniors' Championship with rounds of 72 and 67 over the Glasgow Killermont course.

William Addison was another loyal Torwoodlee man. He served as Captain, Secretary, Treasurer and Greenranger, and also won two Club Championships – in 1903 and 1932. He also served as Border Golfers' Association President from 1947–1954.

Torwoodlee, on the outskirts of Galashiels, is a regular and popular halt on the BGA circuit, and has played its part in

the area's history.

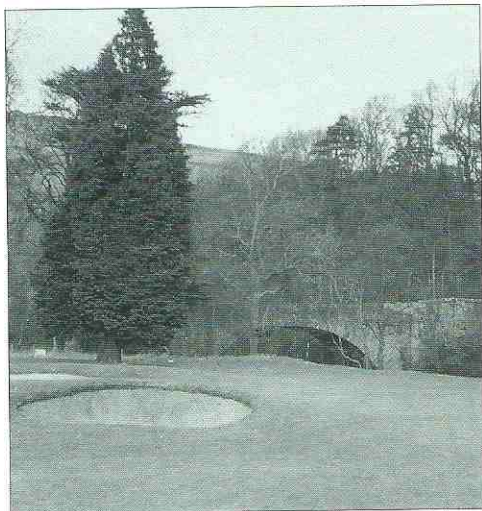
A memorable BGA match was held at the club in 1947 against a top-class West of Scotland side. The visiting line-up comprised Eddie Hamilton, who was Scottish Champion in 1936 and 1938, another nine internationalists in Donald Cameron, Jimmy Wilson, Walter McLeod, Roy MacGregor, Bob Neill, J. Morton Dykes, Alan Stevenson, John Campbell and Eddie Hamilton plus Brodie Lennox.

The home stars were Dick Smith, Reid Welsh, Tom Fairbairn, Jimmy Brown, Bob Campbell, T. T. Sanderson, William Cowe, Dick Livingstone, Cameron Conn and Tom Fraser.

The Borders men put up a brave battle against the impressive visiting line-up, but the eventual score was 11½–3½ in the West side's favour.

At the start of the Border Golfers' Association centenary year, Torwoodlee was looking forward to another major landmark in the club's history – the extension to 18 holes.

John Garner, the former Ryder Cup player, has helped in the design of the new holes, and the intention is to have the full lay-out ready in time for the club's own centenary in 1995.



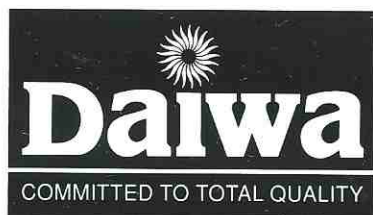
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Of the nineteen Border Golfers' Association members only seventeen are course owning. The other two, Borders Police and Galashiels Bakers, provide a club structure to encourage competition

### *Borders Police*

Founded:	1956
Holes:	Non Course Owning
Joined BGA:	1979

The Borders Police Club, drawing members from the Berwickshire, Roxburghshire and Selkirkshire constabularies was formed in 1956. Inspector Jack Wilkinson was the instigator, ably supported by the current Border Golfers' Association Centenary secretary, George Rennie.

Annually, the club runs a championship, two divisional outings, four inter-force matches and a Border alliance meeting.

### *Galashiels Bakers*

Founded:	1961
Holes:	Non Course Owning
Joined BGA:	1964

Gala Bakers was founded in 1961 with just 15 members. As the name suggests, it was originally confined to players who worked in the bakery trade. However, it was subsequently opened up to other golfers who were available to play in the competitions held on a Wednesday afternoon at the Ladhope Golf Course.

A famous tradition in the club is the annual end of season outing to Moffat at which the players compete for the Melrose Cup, a trophy donated by Melrose the Bakers. Moffat was the venue for the first 24 years and, after a spell in which various other courses were used, it has been reinstated as the regular venue.

While regarded, in the main, as a social club, the Gala Bakers have been members of the Border Golfers' Association since 1964. A highlight was the club's victory in 1985 in the T. T. Sanderson Trophy at Peebles.

At the start of the BGA centenary season, owing to declining membership, there were only three of the original Gala Bakers' members still in the club, namely John and Jim Melrose and George Dickson. George Dickson is one of the great stalwarts of the club having served as secretary and treasurer for 25 years. In recognition of his service, he was awarded life membership – an honour he also holds at Galashiels Golf Club.



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A Freedom of the Fairways golf passport, offering access to the 15 participating clubs at attractive prices, was also introduced with great success.

The clubs taking part in the scheme are Duns, Eyemouth, Hawick, Hirsell, Innerleithen, Jedburgh, Kelso, Ladhope, Lauder, Melrose, Minto, Newcastleton, Selkirk, St. Boswells and West Linton.





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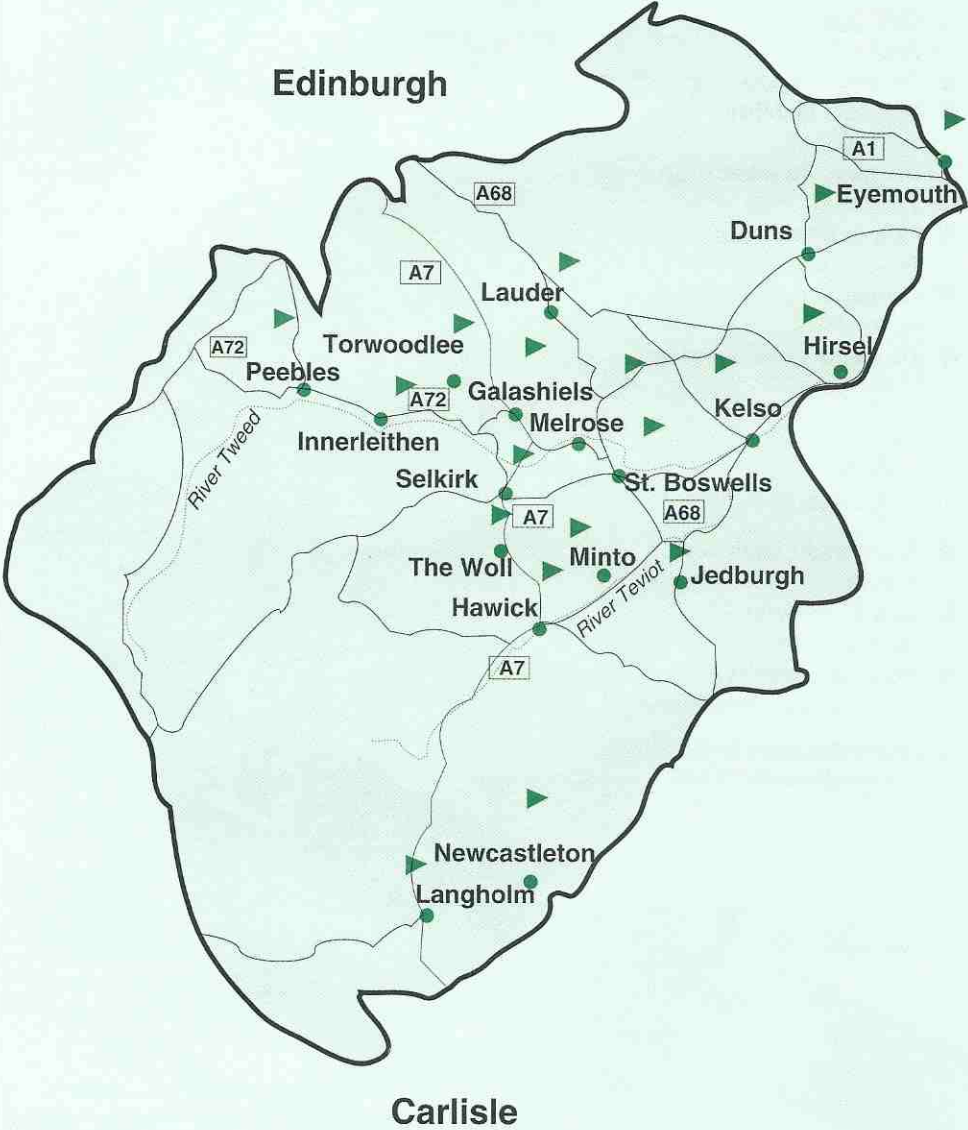
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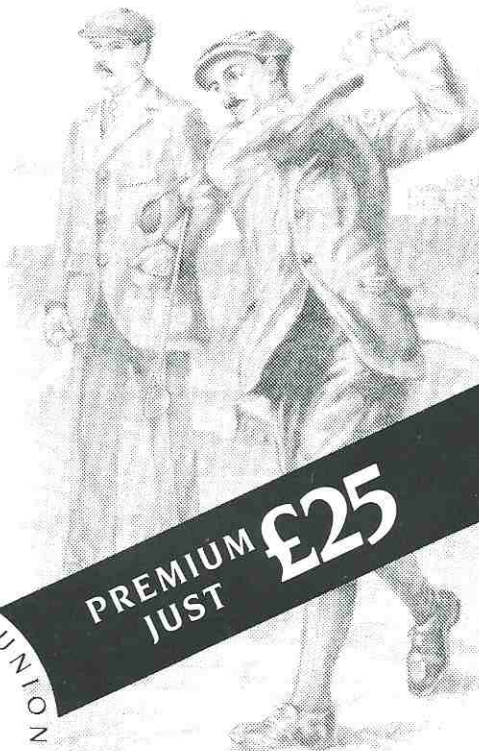
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# Border Heroes

Throughout the first one hundred years of the Border Golfers' Association, many heroes-players and administrators - have emerged. Whether it be victory in a national event, international selection or long years of service on the Association committee, all records are worthy of note.

## *Donald Ballantyne*



Selkirk's Donald Ballantyne represented the Scottish Boys' team in 1980 and that marked the start of a decade of success for the Borders stalwart. In Border terms, he won the County Boys' Championship in 1981

and collected a hat-trick of youth titles in 1981, 1982 and 1984.

Another hat-trick followed when he won the Border Order of Merit in 1985, 1986 and 1987.

A regular on the prize lists of national and open events, Donald achieved a personal highlight when he won the 1986 Border Championship at Selkirk. In the same year he partnered Kelvin Scott to Selkirk's victory in the Border Challenge Trophy.

An employee of the Selkirk electronics company, Exacta Circuits, having to work regular night shift does little to enhance Donald's golfing opportunities. However, he regularly misses a night's sleep in order to play for the county team.

At 29 and playing off a one handicap, Donald goes into 1993 looking forward to maintaining his fine record in Selkirk and BGA colours.

## *James Barrie*



One of the main instigators in the formation of the BGA James Barrie, from Hawick, served as Secretary and Treasurer from the Association's foundation in 1893 right through to 1939.

In 1901 and 1902 he also proved he was an expert on the course with back-to-back victories in the Border Championship. In 1909 he put Hawick's name on the Challenge Trophy with a victory in partnership with C. J. Rennie.

A four-time Hawick Club Champion between 1894 and 1900, he also managed to fit in a season, 1922-1923, as Hawick Captain.

A farmer's son from Heartgarth, James Barrie died at the age of 78 on the 7th of August, 1948.



## Jimmy Brown



Jimmy Brown, now aged 77, brought golfing distinction to the Borders during his time as a member of Hawick, Minto and Torwoodlee. After spells at Hawick and Minto it was in 1949, four years

after taking up the post as manager of a Galashiels outfitter's shop, that he moved to Torwoodlee Golf Club. In the same year Jimmy was invited to take part in the Scottish team trials. He lost only one match – to ex-Borders man Alex Kyle.

However, despite his victories over such well-known names of the time as Brodie Lennox, John G. McGregor and John G. Campbell, he missed out on the side that went on to play in the Home Internationals at Portmarnock. But perhaps the selectors were proved wrong – Scotland finished with the wooden spoon!

In 1950 Jimmy achieved further acclaim when he reached the final of the prestigious Eden Tournament at St. Andrews, losing out at the last stage to Bill Sievwright.

He also got the better of the professionals in the early 1950s, winning the top scratch award in an East of Scotland Alliance Championship at Gullane and finishing runner-up in the same event on another occasion at Muirfield.

A plus handicapper for many years – a 63 over the Vertish Hill was his low score over Hawick – he was a regular winner on the Border Golfers' Association scene.

He won three Border Championships – for Hawick in 1937 and 1938 and as a Torwoodlee member again some 21 years later in 1959.

Along with another renowned county player, Sid Telfer, he also collected a hat-trick of Border Challenge Trophies for

Hawick. During his short spell at Minto (1936 - 1939), he won the Club Championships three times in a row from 1937.

Jimmy also took part in the first Borders versus West of Scotland match which took place at Torwoodlee in 1947. Organised by Jimmy Mackay from Hawick, the star-studded visiting line-up included such names as two time Scottish Champion, Eddie Hamilton, and internationalists Donald Cameron, Jimmy Wilson, and Walter McLeod.

In addition to his 1959 Border Championship victory, Jimmy won 11 Club Championships during his time as a member of Torwoodlee.

Unfortunately for Jimmy, much of his golfing prime coincided with the Second World War. "I would have turned professional if the war had not intervened," he admitted. However, the paid game's loss was definitely Border golf's gain.

## Cameron Conn



Cameron Conn, from Hawick, was the first member of the BGA to hold the highest position in Scottish amateur golf – President of the Scottish Golf Union. A solicitor from Glasgow, Cameron Conn arrived in the

Borders after the Second World War when his father took up a position as a bank clerk in Hawick.

An excellent player, Cameron served as Secretary of the BGA from 1941, but relinquished the post to become SGU President from 1948–1950. Thereafter he served as joint secretary of the amateur games ruling body in Scotland until his death in 1957.

A great Borders personality, Cameron Conn superseded Sam Torrance as an employer of the broom-handled

putter! He had a unique technique on the greens using a club with an extended shaft – but evidently the style did not catch on with his peers.

## David Campbell



David Campbell's involvement with the Border Golfers' Association reads like a good episode from "This Is Your Life". The big red book would reveal a playing and administrative contribution that is second to none.

David was introduced to the game by his father Andrew, who devoted 40 years to the post of part-time greenkeeper at Melrose. The honours did not take long to come the youngster's way.

He was the first holder of the Hart Trophy - the Border Boys' Championship, - in 1960, and was still a teenager when he first represented the Borders senior county side in 1964. It was the start of a 20 year unbroken association with the team that, on two occasions, reached the finals of the Scottish Area Team Championship.

His senior roll of Borders honours includes two County titles in 1976 and 1982, and a handful of Champion of Champions victories.

In 1973, David made a winning breakthrough at national level when he captured the Craigmillar Park Open, and it seemed inevitable that a Scottish cap would follow in its wake. Sadly, it was not to be.

Included in the Scottish squad, the self-taught Borderer came under the eye of John Jacobs. However, the man known as "Dr Golf" made the wrong diagnosis as far as David was concerned, and an attempt at a change of grip had a dire effect. So much so, that he nearly gave up the game.

However, his self-imposed exile from the Royal & Ancient sport did not last long. "I was no good at cricket, so decided to stick to golf," said David of a decision that was greatly appreciated by the BGA.

David's employers, the Royal Bank of Scotland, have also benefited from his talents on the course. On five occasions he has led the bank to victory in the prestigious Dispatch trophy, an event held annually at the Braid Hills in Edinburgh.

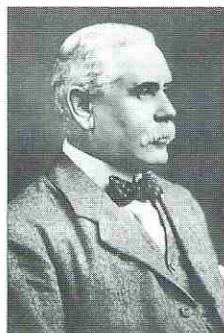
On the administrative front, David was President of the Border Golfers' Association in 1985–1986.

Having done the rounds, so to speak, of Royal Bank offices in his beloved Borders, he is now the Manager of the Galashiels branch.

Did he ever consider giving up the security of the bank to follow a professional career in golf? "I did give it a thought when I was about 18," he admitted. "But I don't think I would have liked to have worked in a shop. But it has been interesting to watch the careers of Sandy Stephen, Craig Maltman and Andrew Oldcorn, all of whom I played with regularly as amateurs." And any regrets? "I certainly would not have minded picking up some of the prize money the Pros play for these days."

As low as plus two for many years, David now plays off a handicap of two – and can still give the very best a fright or two on the course.

## T. D. Chrichton Smith



Thomas David Chrichton Smith was born in Perthshire in 1857, but it was in the Borders that he achieved golfing fame.

He was a founder member and first Captain of Kelso Golf Club and went on



to become the first winner of the Border Golfers' Association Championship. He won that title in 1893 with scores of 93 at Kelso and an 89 at Selkirk.

Chrichton Smith moved to Kelso to take up a position with Robson and Smith, Solicitors, a firm in which he later went on to become the sole partner. When he arrived in Kelso there was no local club so he joined Hawick.

But, at his instigation, the Duke of Roxburghe's Chamberlain, Mr Brunton of Broomlands, was approached in 1887 as to the possibility of gaining a lease on the ground at Friars Haugh to construct a nine-hole course. Kelso Golf Club was thus founded. The rest, as they say, is history.

In addition to becoming a fine and enthusiastic golfer, T. D. Chrichton Smith also served as Kelso's Provost, then known as the Town Clerk. It was a position he held when he died at the age of 74 in 1931.

He played off scratch for many years and figured regularly in the Kelso prize list, forming a formidable partnership with another Border "legend", Walter Rutherford.

In addition to holding the position as the first Captain of Kelso from 1887–1889, he went on to serve in the same capacity from 1920–1921.

With his family roots firmly entrenched in Tayside – his father was a Rector of Crieff Academy – it was Perthshire to which he returned to be buried.

## *Murray Cleghorn*

Perhaps not surprisingly, Murray Cleghorn was only three years of age when his father Alex – recognised as one of Border Golf's father figures – placed a club in his hands and sent him out onto the Selkirk course.

Young Murray fulfilled his father's hopes by reaching a single figure handicap by the time he had reached his early teens and by becoming a prominent force on the



local and national boys' scene.

In 1963, at Prestwick, Murray reached the quarter-finals of the British Boys' Championship and the following year, at North Berwick, he was runner-up to Bill Lockie, now the

professional at Kilmarnock Barassie, in the Scottish Boys' Championship.

The duel feat earned Murray a place in the 1964 Scottish Boys' team and, winning both his foursomes and singles, he played a major part in a 9–3 thrashing of England – one of the biggest ever wins over the Auld Enemy at Boys' level.

Murray made his debut for the Borders Senior team at the tender age of 15 and was an automatic choice for the years spanning from 1962 to 1977.

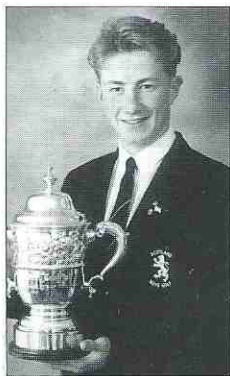
His most memorable year during the outstanding run came in 1975. He won the Border Championship over his beloved Selkirk, the Border Challenge Trophy with the now late Jim Cockburn, and the Border Champion of Champions. In addition, he won both the Selkirk and Torwoodlee Club Championships.

The commitments of a family, a wife and two daughters and a sports shop in Selkirk, with all-Saturday opening, have done much to curtail Murray's golfing interests, and has meant that he has not played competitively since 1984.

His all-round sporting abilities are reflected in the fact that he also represented the Borders in doubles at badminton, while he is an enthusiastic supporter of the Selkirk rugby team.

Murray represented Selkirk High School at rugby, but it was his ability to hit the wee white ball that secured Scottish honours. His daughters are not following in the family tradition - horse riding is their main sporting interests.

## Graham Davidson



It is perhaps fitting that, in centenary year, the most recent Border Golfers' Association member to achieve national acclaim, Langholm's Graham Davidson, has followed the modern trend and moved stateside to continue his golfing education.

The 17 year old took up a scholarship at the Midland College, Texas in September, 1991, and intends spending five years combining academia with golf.

"It was the excellent standard of golf facilities that attracted me to America," explained Graham. "But I'll be back in Scotland for the summer, so I'll still be able to play in the major national events."

Encouraged by his father, Irving, and helped by the fact that the family moved to a house close to the course, Graham was just four years old when he first took up the game.

"I was about ten when I started to take it seriously," he recalled. "The members at Langholm were very encouraging and by the time I was 12 I was taking part in all the mens' competitions."

Having reached a single figure handicap by his early teens, junior honours flowed in abundance. He twice won the Border Boys' Under 14 Championship, went on to collect the Under 16 title and completed a handsome haul with victory in the Under 18 Strokeplay, and three successive wins in the matchplay event.

In 1990 he made his national breakthrough by collecting the Douglas Gillespie Scottish Under 16 title, and the following year he donned his first Scottish cap in the Boys' internationals at Montrose.

The same season was completed in style when he won the prestigious Daily

Telegraph Junior Golfer of the Year award – an annual strokeplay championship held at Penina in Portugal and supported by Tony Jacklin.

In 1992, his last season in the Boys' ranks, Graham reached the last eight of the Scottish Boys Championship and finished runner-up to Stephen Gallacher (who was to go on and win the Scottish Championship and reach the semi-finals of the Amateur Championship) in the Scottish Boys Strokeplay event at Monifieth. He also won the Scottish Schools' Championship.

Again selected for the Boys' internationals at Royal Mid-Surrey, he collected three points out of four in helping Scotland defeat England and to share the spoils with Wales.

While hard work and dedication have reaped their rewards, Graham also appreciates the part that the Border Golfers' Association has played in his rise to national stardom.

"The Association has been a great help. I received coaching from Derek Small and playing in the Border junior events is a great way to make the step up from Boys' club competitions. I am sure I couldn't have achieved as much without the BGA's assistance."

Alex Cleghorn, a guru to many Border youngsters, and Innerleithen's Mackie Fraser, organiser of the Golfers' Junior Association, must also take credit for his progress.

"Alex has been my regular coach for years. He's been a real inspiration, and I'll still be keeping in touch when I'm over in the States," said Graham. "Mackie has also been a tremendous influence through his involvement with the Border juniors."

At the start of the centenary year, Graham's hopes for the future were to have four more enjoyable years on the other side of the Atlantic, and try and make the next step up the golfing ladder by winning Scottish and British Senior honours. The 1994 Walker Cup was clearly on his mind.



Further ahead – if everything goes according to plan – he will make his living playing golf. As a parting shot before flying out to start his new life on the other side of the Atlantic, he said: “Once I’ve finished at university, I’ll certainly think about turning professional.”

Graham is a young man with an abundance of talent – his progress will be watched with interest by everyone in the BGA.

## *Henry Messer Duncan*



Henry Messer Duncan always known as Messer was among the most noted members of Hawick and the Border Golfers’ Association during the early part of the 20th century.

He won the Border Championship seven times between 1904 and 1920, a record that has since only been surpassed

by T.T. Sanderson, who took the title on nine occasions from 1936–1964.

Messer collected nine Hawick Club Championships. The run began in 1904 and he won five in a row from 1909. After the War he won title number nine in 1919.

In addition to his individual achievements he also helped Hawick win the Border Challenge Trophy a handful of times between 1905 and 1919. The first was with C. P. Ross, three in a row followed with Capt. J. Fyfe Jamieson from 1910, and the sequence was completed in 1919 with J. Fraser.

## *Ian Ford*



As the only Borderer to win the British Boys Championship, Kelso’s Ian Ford holds a revered niche in the area’s golfing folklore.

The talented youngster claimed the greatest honour in British boys golf in 1977 when he beat fellow Scot,

Colin Dalgleish, by one hole in the 18 hole final at Downfield, Dundee.

Having already represented Scotland and British boys level, Ian then went on to represent Scotland on half a dozen occasions at youth level, and was also named as reserve for the 1977 Scottish team for the home internationals – a series that was unfortunately cancelled due to the Irish troubles.

Ian’s introduction to the game came at the age of ten when a family friend of his parents, Walter and Elsie Ford, presented him with a couple of hickory shaft clubs. Three years later he achieved his first success, winning the Border Boys Under 15 Championship at Innerleithen. A year later he successfully defended the title at Torwoodlee.

The early promise at Border level was carried over to the national scene, and a top ten place in the 1976 Scottish Schools Championship led to his first cap – for the Scottish Schools team against England.

In 1977, Ian made further progress by reaching the last eight of the Scottish Boys Championship at Dunbar, and he also finished eighth in the Strokeplay Championship. As a result he was selected for the Scottish Boys team.

To further underline his talent, Ian went on to win the prestigious Helensburgh Boys’ Open and gained further recognition

as a member of the British team for the annual Boys match against Europe.

Both international matches were staged at Downfield, Dundee, as the prelude to the British Boys Championship.

For Ian they were the overture to the greatest week of his golfing career.

In a field that contained such well-known names as Paul Way, Mark Moulton, Andrew Oldcorn and Philip Walton, the youngster from one of Scotland's lesser known nine-hole courses strode to victory – a triumph that sparked celebrations the equal of Kelso Rugby Club winning the National League title.

Having won the Boys' title, Ian was keen to make a career as a professional. However, due to his mother's ill health, the opportunity passed him by.

"In hindsight, I suppose I do have some regrets," admitted Ian, who still lives in Kelso and works as a car sales representative. "Gordon Brand Jnr. was my regular partner in the amateur days and when I see how well he has done I do think it would have been worth a shot. But I also know it would have been a hard life."

However, the professional game's loss was definitely the Border' gain. Ian has been a regular in the County team for almost 20 years, and among the competitive highlights was victory in the 1989 Border Champion of Champions.

He has also recorded many high finishes in the Border Championship, although he is still awaiting an elusive first victory.

He has also continued to make his mark further afield. In 1991 he was the leading Scottish qualifier, finishing fifth overall, in qualifying for the British Amateur Championship over Ganton and Scarborough.

Looking ahead to the Border Golfers' Association centenary season, Ian commented: "Everyone is on a real high, and it promises to be a fantastic season. It would be a great year to win one of the major trophies."

## *Paul Gallagher*



Paul Gallagher put Peebles on the Scottish international golf map with a startling run of success from 1972–82. The highlights were victory in the 1974 Scottish Boys' Strokeplay

Championship at Lundin Links, and two appearances in the Open Championship.

With his family living adjacent to the course, and his grandfather, Jimmy, a club secretary, it was perhaps inevitable that Paul, at the age of seven, decided to take up the game. By 1972, the 14 year old was a serious competitor, and marked his arrival by winning the Border Boys' Championship.

Over the next few seasons he put together a string of impressive performances at Boys' and Youths' level. He won the coveted St. Andrews Boys' Championship in 1973 and 1974, and represented the Scottish Boys' team in 1974 and 1975.

In 1976, he made the reserves bench for the Scottish Youths team, and two seasons later was elevated to full status. In the same year he won the first of four successive Border Championships. The 1979 victory came over his beloved Peebles, and he strolled to the winners rostrum by a remarkable nine shot margin. "That was a really proud moment," he admitted. "It still ranks as one of my best ever performances."

Among Paul's most treasured memories are the two chances he had to rub shoulders with the world's best in the Open – and he will certainly never forget playing over the Old Course at St. Andrews in the 1978 Championship.

"I was playing behind Tom



Watson and in front of David Graham. But so many people had come to support me that I had the biggest gallery. It was a tremendous experience." Paul put up a great performance, just missing the cut by one shot.

His second Open appearance came in the 1980 Open at Muirfield where he again just missed out on making the final 36 holes.

However, Paul had already proved his ability to compete on equal terms with the professionals when he finished second behind John Chillas in the 36-hole 1976 Uniroyal event at the Royal Burgess in Edinburgh.

It goes without saying that Paul toyed with the notion of making a career in golf. Having finished runner-up in the 1979 British Youths' Championship, he seriously considered turning professional. However, having already started a course in architecture at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh – during which time he won University representative golf honours – he went on to complete his studies and became fully qualified in 1982.

As with so many amateurs, career commitments curtailed the time Paul – who once reached plus three as a handicap – could afford to devote to amateur sport. "I never had the time to apply myself after the early 1980s, and my form inevitably tailed off," he admitted.

However, he experienced a term working for the professionals when he spent the 1987 season as Secretary of the Scottish Region of the Professional Golfers' Association.

But architecture has always been his first love as a means of earning a living, and he returned to that particular profession in 1988.

Prior to his switch to the PGA, Paul was one of the founder members of the Border Junior Golfers' Association in 1984, an organisation that has flourished over the ensuing nine years.

"Alex Cleghorn and I got together

to organise the Association and with the help of sponsorship from local firms we virtually put together a fixture list overnight," he revealed. "There is now an order-of-merit, and players like Alan Turnbull (Peebles), Jamie and Malcolm Browne (brothers from Jedburgh), and James Patterson (Eyemouth), all came through the system."

Nowadays, Paul, who is married and lives in Stirling, admits that his sojourns onto a golf course are few and far between. "I virtually devoted fifteen years to playing solid golf, and I must admit I don't really miss it. But I do enjoy the odd friendly game."

## *Alex Kyle*



Born in Hawick in 1907, A. T. Kyle moved to Peebles with his family when he was only months old, and went on to bring golfing fame to the Border town.

In 1929 and 1930, he scored back-to-back victories in the Border Championship, and other successes included the BGA Foursomes, Peebles Open, Carnwath Amateur and Newlands Trophy.

In 1931, Alex moved to Yorkshire and he twice (1935 and 1936) won the Yorkshire Amateur Championship on the road to international stardom.

In 1938, the Scot played in the Walker Cup at St. Andrews, and his five and four win in the 36-hole singles matches over Fred Haas ensured a first ever victory for Great Britain and Ireland. He went on to make 21 appearances for Scotland in the Home Internationals.

To compete in the 1939 Amateur Championship, Alex and his family left Peebles that morning and travelled to the Royal Liverpool Club where he achieved

his finest hour with a two and one win over Welsh Champion, A. Duncan.

Alex returned to Peebles with the trophy, and was greeted on the outskirts by the town's pipe and silver bands. He was carried shoulder high to the Council Chambers where Provost Fergusson made a welcoming address.

Sadly, the Second World War brought a temporary halt to Alex's sparkling career. Before the War, he worked as chief textile designer to a Bradford company, Drummond & Sons, but he then signed on as a Pilot Officer in the RAF Volunteer Reserve in 1940. By 1942, he was a Squadron Leader with administrative duties.

In 1946, his revived career on the course saw him reach the fourth round of the Amateur Championship at Birkdale, where he lost to eventual winner, Leonard Crawley, and he again played in the Walker Cup at St. Andrews in 1947. He only played in the foursomes and lost his match with J. C. Wilson.

Unfortunately, Alex suffered a broken right arm and damaged his left in a fall at his home. Many doubted whether, at the age of 42, he would recapture his best form. But the determined Borderer did recover and went on to make his third Walker Cup appearance at Birkdale in 1951. He beat the US captain, W. P. Turnesa, regarded as one of the world's greatest golfers, by two holes in the singles.

In later years, honours continued to be bestowed on Alex. He served as President of the Yorkshire Golf Union in 1966 and held the same role at Sandmoor Golf Club in 1968. In 1969, he represented Britain in the World Senior Amateur Team Championships at St. Andrews, and again played for the side at Ontario, Canada, the following year.

He also served as a member of the Championship Committee of the Royal & Ancient Golf Club, and retained a scratch handicap well into his 60s.

Alex Kyle died in 1991.

## *David Lawrie*



David Lawrie brought national fame to Melrose Golf Club through his hat-trick of victories – 1965, 1968 and 1976 – in the British One-Armed Championship.

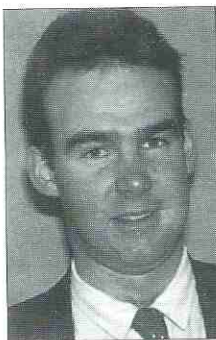
David took up the game in 1947 and

enjoyed a career marked by many milestones. In addition to his three victories, he also appeared in another three finals of the British One-Armed Championship and was four times a semi-finalist.

At Melrose, David was elected onto the Committee in 1958 and enjoyed continuous service through to 1973. He served as Auditor from 1964–1968, Competition Treasurer from 1969–1970 and Treasurer from 1971–1973. In 1963 David was the Melrose Club Captain.

David passed away in 1978 but is survived by his twin brother, Duncan Lawrie, who is a member of the Royal & Ancient Championship Committee.

## *Graeme Matthew*



Introduced to the game as a ten year old by his Uncle Ronald, a low handicap member of Torwoodlee, Graeme Matthew joined an elite band of Border national title winners when he pulled off a shock triumph in the 1985 Scottish Boys

Strokeplay Championship.

It was a remarkable victory for the Melrose youngster considering he had not even been in the field until the eve of battle. "Originally my handicap was too high, and I was put on the reserve list," Graeme



explained. "But someone pulled out and I was given the place."

He also had reason to be grateful to the endeavours of the Scottish Golf Union officials. Graeme had been visiting his granny and it took numerous telephone calls to track him down.

Graeme's win secured a berth in the Scottish Boys' teams in both 1985 and 1986, while he also represented the Border Boys from 1985-1987. Since the mid-1980s he has also been an ever present in the Borders Senior line-up.

At the time of the Scottish Boys' victory, Graeme thought of turning professional. However, he then decided to take up a golf scholarship at Stirling University – an establishment that has helped the golfing careers of Scottish internationalists Colin Dalgleish and John Huggan, and Curtis Cup stars Shirley Huggan and Catriona Lambert.

"The University provided great opportunities," he said. "We had a trip to Japan to compete in an international university event, and also benefited from a winter trip abroad."

In 1991, the Borderer added to his credentials when he finished third in the European Universities' Championship in France.

Having graduated in accountancy in 1992, Graeme secured a job in Edinburgh and is now planning to combine a top amateur career with a demanding profession.

"When I was considering turning professional, I spent a year at university in the states. I didn't really enjoy it, and I also didn't fancy working as an assistant in a shop," he reflected.

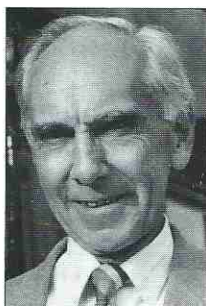
"Now I want to keep playing at as high a level as possible in the amateur ranks, and continue to enjoy the game."

One round he enjoyed more than most was the course record eight under par 62 he posted at Melrose in 1990. He hopes the record will stand for a long time.

As a beneficiary of the BGA, Graeme is grateful for the coaching help he received as a youngster from Derek Small.

However, he has a word of advice for boys who wish to further their careers. "Because the Borders is so small, you really have to go away and take part in events outwith the region."

## *Stanley Mayer*



Stanley Mayer enjoyed golfing success in both his native Glasgow and in Wiltshire. But it was as a member of Torwoodlee that he achieved his finest hour with victory in the 1989 Scottish Seniors' Championship at Killermont.

The adopted Borderer won the event with a record low total of one under par 139 (72, 67), and he admitted: "It was a great thrill to win a national title. Definitely one of the highlights of my career."

Stanley Mayer took up golf at an early age and, as a member of Eastwood, on the outskirts of Glasgow, played off plus one and was a regular in the West of Scotland team.

He also represented the Scottish Universities while a student at Glasgow and had the distinction of being the first winner of the Boyd Quaich, an annual international University strokeplay event staged at St. Andrews.

He also enjoyed matchplay success during his days as a science undergraduate and captained the Scottish Universities to victory over their English counterparts.

Having completed his studies and turned to teaching as a career, Stanley moved to Wiltshire and joined North Wilts Golf Club. During 10 years in the south he won the Wiltshire County Championship

and set course records at both North Wilts and Tidworth.

It was late in 1957 that he moved to the Borders and he completed his teaching career as assistant rector at Galashiels Academy. In addition to Torwoodlee, he is also a member of Luffness in East Lothian and has won both club championship titles on a number of occasions.

Still a low handicapper, Stanley continues to play regularly at both clubs and is looking forward to Torwoodlee blossoming into an 18-hole circuit.

## *Ian Oliver*



A member of both Minto and Hawick Golf Clubs, Ian Oliver has an impressive record in Club, Border and Open competitions.

He must also rate as the unluckiest player ever to compete in the Border Championship. He has finished runner-up on seven

occasions, but never managed to get his name engraved on the trophy. However, he shed the role of BGA bridesmaid with victory in the 1977 Border Champion of Champions.

He has also had little trouble in stacking up Club Championship titles. An eight-time winner at Hawick, he went one better at Minto when he collected the 1990/91 title. On the Minto Champion's board his name appears seven times in succession from 1969.

In 1978, Ian enjoyed an outstanding season on the Open tournament circuit winning events at Gullane (Courtald Thomson), Duddingston (Duncan Rose Bowl) and Penrith (Whitelaw Trophy).

He also notched two Hawick, one

North Northumberland and one Haddington Open titles within an outstanding career.

A past Captain of the Border team, his representative honours also includes numerous appearances for the South-East District.

## *James Patterson*



Brought up in a house next door to the Eyemouth Golf Club, James Patterson enjoyed the advantage of starting the game before he had reached double figures.

He was, in fact, only seven years old when his father presented him with a set of clubs

and thus launched a career that was to lead to Scottish Junior international honours.

By the time he had reached his teens, James was down to a five handicap and he made his Border Senior Team debut at the tender age of 14.

The Border Boys' Matchplay and the Border Youths' Championships both came his way – his one disappointment was that the Boys' strokeplay title always proved elusive.

However, he did meet with success in the strokeplay game at Scottish level and it was an impressive six-shot victory in the individual event in the 1985 Scottish Boys' Team Trophy at East Renfrewshire that clinched ownership of a 1985 Scottish Boys' cap.

In the internationals, at the Royal Burgess in Edinburgh, he scored a fine 3 and 2 singles win over Mike Macara of Wales and also partnered Neil Duncan to a win in the foursomes in the same match.

It was also in 1985 that James enjoyed a superb run in the Scottish Boys' Championship, reaching the semi-finals at Dunbar.

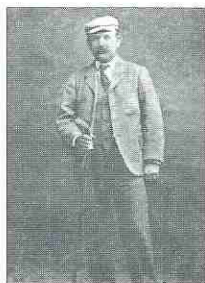


Aside from regular appearances in the Border senior team, James has made his mark in Border events with two victories in the Cancer Relief Champion of Champions tournament played at The Hirsell Golf Course.

At the start of the BGA centenary season the 23-year-old scratch handicapper was contemplating making his career in golf.

"I've certainly considered turning professional and I've applied for a number of jobs," said James. "If the right opportunity comes along I'll be there to grab it."

## Walter Rutherford



Walter Rutherford, who was to go on to become the first President of the Border Golfers' Association in 1893, was born in 1857 at Crailing Tofts on the outskirts of Jedburgh, and died there 57 years later. He was a

remarkable all-round sportsman, with golf one of his dearest passions.

At a time when the game is attempting to make a return to Olympic competition, it is interesting to note that Walter entered the Paris Olympics in 1904 and won a silver medal for golf.

Walter left the Borders to study medicine at St. Andrew's University, but returned to follow in his father's farming footsteps.

However, his time at the Home of Golf was not wasted. He learned the game during his brief varsity career and even claimed that Sandy Herd (winner of the 1902 Open Championship at Hoylake) had numbered among his caddies.

In 1878, Walter became one of the first members of Hawick Golf Club and went on to win the Champion medal in 1882, 1883, 1887 and 1888. He also served as Captain from 1884–1885 and set a new course record of 77 (eight under par at the

time!) before going on to help found Kelso Golf Club in 1887.

In 1888, and playing off scratch, Walter won Kelso's first trophy – the Captain's Prize. In subsequent years he figured regularly in the prize list – and reduced his handicap to a staggering plus five. He was a three times Border Champion and held the course record at many of the Border courses.

In his later years he moved on from Kelso to become a member at Jedburgh where he served as Club Captain in 1899.

Curling was another of Walter's sporting loves and he was a great exponent of that game during spells with the Morebattle and Sunlaws Clubs.

Obviously a very active, highly-respected and enterprising individual, Walter's other credits include serving on the local School Board and the Parish and District Councils. He was a founder member of the Mutual Improvement Society and a member of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture and the Border Union. He was also a Justice of the Peace and a member of the Liberal Association.

## T. T. Sanderson



Tom – better known as T.T. – Sanderson rewrote the Border Golfers' Association record books by winning nine Border Championships between 1931 and 1964. It is a total that is never likely to be beaten. A wool sorter

to trade in the boom years for the Border mills, T.T. took up golf as a youngster at Innerleithen. He was only 17 when he won his first Innerleithen Club Championship.

Having served his apprenticeship at his native Innerleithen, T.T. then went on to join Peebles and won 15 Club

Championships and 10 Peebles Open Tournaments.

In addition to his tally of Border Championships, he also won the BGA Champion of Champions at Torwoodlee in 1968 and was a four-time Challenge Trophy winner, twice with Tom Hobkirk and twice with George Roberts.

A true Borderer, T.T. was also an accomplished rugby player and was a regular in the Walkerburn sevens' line-up.

At one time, T.T. flirted with the notion of turning professional, but with little money to be made in his day, he decided to stick to his trade at the Leithen Mill.

T.T. Sanderson's wife, Rita, was also an accomplished player – five was her lowest handicap – and as she related: "Golf was our life. We would spend our holidays at St. Andrews and were also regular visitors to the course around Southport."

A Border golfing legend, T.T. Sanderson's achievements will be hard to surpass.

## Dick Smith



It was a lucky day for the BGA when, in 1946, Dick Smith decided to abandon the lawyer's life, for which he had qualified from Glasgow University, for an alternative career managing a Selkirk Mill founded by his great uncle, Sir Robert Sim.

Dick, one of Scotland's finest ever amateurs, went on to spend 36 years in the Borders, during which time he won the 1958 Scottish Amateur, the 1967 and 1970 Portuguese Open Amateur titles, and played in the Walker Cup and four Open Championships.

Dick has a catalogue of treasured memories from his years of top-class

competition, and perhaps the fondest is his match against a 19-year-old Jack Nicklaus in the 1959 Walker Cup at Muirfield.

"It was Jack's first visit to Britain, and he was hailed as the superstar of the US team", recalled Dick. "He beat me five and four. But it was a great privilege to have played against him."

"At the Walker Cup, Jack was still a raw young college boy, but I was very impressed when he wished me 'good luck' on the first tee. I've met both Jack and his family on many occasions since, and we've played together in a couple of exhibition matches. I feel very fortunate that my name happened to be drawn out alongside his on the day."

In Nicklaus's autobiography, the great man also pays tribute to Dick. In recalling their tussle at Muirfield he describes the Scot as "a great fighter".

Born and bred in Glasgow, Dick's early golf was played as a junior member at Douglas Park and Hilton Park, and as a senior at Balmore where he made his name by winning the Club Championship, and setting a course record.

During the war he served in the Royal Artillery and ironically, was posted to Hardgate Golf Club in Clydebank, where the clubhouse was the officers mess. At the end of the war he spent six months in India, and again enjoyed golfing success by winning the Indian Amateur National Championship at the Royal Calcutta Club.

It was in 1946 that Dick was given the chance to move to Selkirk, and it was the start of many happy years in Border golf. He won three Borders Championships and, in harness with Alex Cleghorn took the Borders foursomes title 4 times.

"The Borders was a great place to play golf," said Dick. "Everyone was very friendly, and there was great competition between the various clubs."

The most memorable of his four Open Championships – two at Muirfield and two at St. Andrews – came in his debut



appearance in 1957 when he finished joint fifth and top amateur over the Old Course. He finished on 276, seven shots behind winner, Bobby Locke.

"I was a member of the R&A and arrived at St. Andrews without having a practice round. I played the last two rounds with John Panton and it was a great experience."

It certainly was a remarkable achievement, and one that reflects Dick's great temperament, and his ability to rise to the occasion. As he would be the first to admit, it certainly wasn't a reward for many hours spent on the practice ground.

"When I was in business I hardly practised at all," he confessed. "In fact, my play was virtually confined to weekends. I didn't really deserve to do so well."

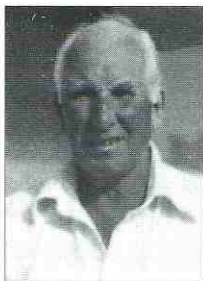
In 1983, Smith retired and moved to Ayrshire to benefit from the guaranteed all-year round golf over Royal Troon and Prestwick. In the same year he completed a handful of National Championship victories by taking the Scottish Seniors crown at Glasgow Killermont.

Over the years, Dick has had the pleasure of playing in the company of no less than seven Open Champions – Nicklaus, Kel Nagle, Roberto de Vicenzo, Peter Thomson, Fred Daly, Max Faulkner and Sandy Lyle. The most recent occasion was when he played Lyle in an exhibition match at Prestwick, a course at which the former Borders man holds honorary membership status.

Another treasured moment came at the Centenary Open at St. Andrews in 1960. "I was in the opening pairing with Henry Cotton and hit the first ball of the tee."

Dick has never regretted that his golf was confined to the amateur scene, and living in Troon, he now plays almost every day of life. "Golf has been a way of life and has provided so many happy memories."

## Sid Telfer



C.W. Telfer - he dropped the Cedrick in favour of Sid from his primary school days - was just eight years old when he first ventured on to the Hawick Golf Course.

Introduced to the game by his father, Gordon,

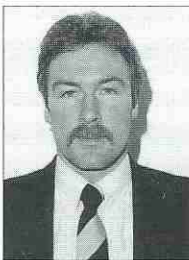
who was a past Club Champion, he did not take long to become established as one of the leading players in the Borders.

A fourteen time Hawick Club Champion in the period from 1936 to 1962, Sid also won back-to-back Border Championships in 1955 and 1956, and was a three time victor for Hawick in the Border Challenge Trophy (1951, 1953 and 1960)

A prominent figure in the County teams throughout the 1940s and 1950s, he admitted: "There was a great camaraderie in the Borders. We had a wonderful time playing matches and going to all the different courses for the 36-hole Open competitions."

Sid, who celebrates his 78th birthday in the BGA Centenary year, still plays several times a week during the season, and combines golf with a list of other interests that include walking and bowling.

## Mike Thomson



Mike Thomson was well enough known in the Borders because of his exploits as a footballer and a golfer, but reaching the final of the Scottish Amateur Championship in 1990 at Gullane made him national news.

It was the best performance in Scotland's premier tournament for amateurs since Dick Smith won the title at Prestwick in 1958.

Mike came to Gullane with a good reputation in the Borders but really "unknown" outside.

But by the end of the week when he dismissed Stephen Easingwood and Jim Milligan in quick succession as well as dealing successfully with five other opponents, Mike had done enough to be chosen as second reserve for the Scottish team.

In other words, he came to Gullane with no past record to recommend him but left with a hugely enhanced stature and the knowledge he was, for a time, considered by the selectors as the thirteenth best player in Scotland, even although he lost the 36 hole final seven and five to Craig Everett after being one up at lunch.

Business-wise his success that week led to a tremendous spin-off for his golf shop in Galashiels. It boomed and has continued to do so ever since.

But one of the drawbacks of seeing so many sets of clubs on display and readily available means you are tempted to try them out.

Mike admitted that the year after he did well at Gullane, he had used six putters in the first golf of 1991 and still had not discovered one to suit him.

One of the most consistent players in the Borders for more than 10 years, Mike has been around before that.

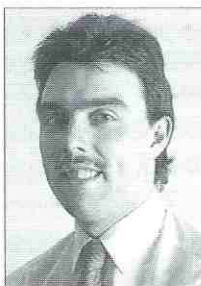
Brought up in Innerleithen, his football career in the Border spanned more than 15 years with Vale of Leithen, Hawick Royal Albert, Kelso, Selkirk and nine years with Gala Fairydean. He also had a spell with Shildon and Billingham in the North of England league after he had toured Europe for a year as a teenager.

He returned to the Borders in his early 20s, joined the Melrose Club where he was given a handicap of four and became a carpet salesman in Galashiels.

Nearly 10 years later came the opportunity to branch out in business for himself in a golf shop.

Mike is also a member at Ladhope and having broken through into the big time league has gradually widened his horizons playing in more and more tournaments.

## *Allan Turnbull*



The son of golfing parents, Allan Turnbull joined Peebles as a 10-year-old and within three years had reduced his handicap to single figures.

The honours then began to flow. He won the Border Boys'

Championship in 1980 and 1981. He then went on to win the Helensburgh Boys' title and was the individual winner at the Scottish Boys' Team Tournament.

In 1983 he gained his first Scottish Boys' cap and, whilst the team lost, the young Borderer had the satisfaction of claiming the scalp of Steven Richardson, now of European Tour and Ryder Cup fame.

In 1984 Allan reached the quarter-finals of the Scottish Boys' Championship at Dunbar and then went one better by making it to the last four of the British Boys' at Porthcawl in Wales.

But the undoubted highlight of that summer was helping Scotland defeat England in the final of the European Boys' Team Championship – Scotland's first-ever victory in the event.

The list of achievements helped clinch his place in the Scottish Youths' side, a team in which he retained his place throughout 1985 and 1986. His proud record at youths' level reads: six wins from six outings.

At senior level, Allan also tasted success with victory in the 1985 Leven Gold Medal and has enjoyed a hat-trick of successes in the Border Championship.

Having dismissed thoughts of turning professional – "I never felt I was good enough" – Allan's amateur career



suffered a downturn in fortunes when his first full-time job involved weekend work.

However, having switched employment, in 1992 he finished runner-up in the South-East District Championship and joint fifth in the Leven Gold Medal.

Going into the Border Golfers' Association centenary year, the Peebles man, now aged 27, was looking forward to continuing his comeback at the top level. "I intend to play in all the major national events and give golf a real go over the next two years," he said. Could the BGA centenary year celebrations perhaps be marked by a Borders player being selected for the Scottish team?

## *John Wood*



John Wood, whose first golfing triumph came in the 1953 Melrose Boys' Championship, holds a special place in Scottish golf history as the first Border player to represent the Scottish Boys' team at Carnoustie in 1957.

Similarly, he was the first Border representative in the Scottish Youths' team, at Harrogate in 1960.

In the Harrogate match, he won both his foursomes and singles while, the following year, he played his part in helping defeat the Auld Enemy at Bruntsfield Links in Edinburgh.

During a glittering junior career, John won the 1954 and 1955 Border Boys' Championships and reached the fifth round of the 1956 Scottish Boys' Championship. At the age of 16 he won the Melrose Club Championship.

In 1958 he gained election for the British Boys' team and played in a special match against the Great Britain & Ireland side that won the 1957 Ryder Cup. The event took place at Moor Park and John played against Ken Bousfield in the singles

and opposite Bernard Hunt and John Jacobs in the foursomes.

The same year marked John's debut as a senior Border County player and a four-year unbroken run of representative honours.

In 1962, John's career in hospital administration took him to Perthshire where he became a member of the King James VI Club.

However, he still made frequent visits to the Borders and in 1964 helped Melrose win the Border Team Tournament.

Another change in posting saw him become a member of Murcar Golf Club in Aberdeen from 1965 to 1974. During that time he twice won the Murcar Club Championship and played with success in many Open Tournaments. He won the Shetland Open back-to-back in 1975 and 1976.

In 1976 he rejoined Melrose Golf Club – returning to the Border County side in 1978 – while, in 1977, he was a member of a four-man Cumbrian side that won the Cumbria County Matchplay Championship.

John has since emigrated to Auckland in New Zealand and at the start of the BGA Centenary season was based as Hospital Manager at the city's Cornwall Park Hospital.

## *Kenny Wells*



Even before he reached school age, Kenny Wells was a regular on the Peebles fairways. He lived close to the clubhouse and both his mother, Ruth – a Peebles ladies' Champion – and father, Ken, were golfing addicts. But in Kenny's younger

days golf was cast aside in favour of his other sporting interests of football and rugby. He represented the Border Schoolboys at rugby and the County Senior team at football.

However, it was when he went to study quantity surveying at Heriot-Watt College in Edinburgh that golf took over as his first love.

"I couldn't really afford the time to train for football and rugby so I decided at that stage that golf would be a better option," he explained.

It was raising the cash to buy golf clubs that proved the biggest handicap in his early days. "My parents weren't particularly wealthy and I played my first Borders tournament with a set of borrowed clubs. Some of them even had wooden shafts! When I did get my first full set I had to take out a bank overdraft."

It was money well spent. Over the years Kenny became one of the most prolific winners on the Open tournament circuit – "I was a bit of a gold digger." He was also ever-present in the Border Golfers' Association team.

Kenny was still just a teenager when he made his senior debut for the BGA in the late 1950s, while his first major win came at the age of 17 in the 1960 Peebles Open.

His county representative record went on to span four decades – he was a regular in the team until deciding to call it a day in 1981 – while another of his many claims to fame in 72-hole events included winning the prestigious Prestonfield and Royal Musselburgh Opens back-to-back in both 1968 and 1970.

In 1978 he won the South-East District Championship over his home Peebles course and he also represented the South-East in various events, including the inaugural match against Northumberland at Dunbar in 1977.

His Border Golfers' Association record is equally impressive. At Peebles in 1966 he won the first of his four Border Championships, the other triumphs coming in 1969, 1970 and 1974.

The Border Champion of Champions trophy also bears his inscription, in

1972. He was also a two time winner with Dick Cornwall in the Border Challenge Trophy and was runner up on five other occasions.

At the start of the BGA centenary season he also continued to share with Melrose's David Campbell the distinction of holding the Peebles course record of six under par 64, a mark he set in 1982.

While appearances in national events were infrequent, Kenny did reach the fifth round of the 1968 Scottish Championship at Muirfield only to be beaten by the eventual winner and Walker Cup player, Gordon Cosh.

And his inclusion in a Scottish squad that benefited from coaching sessions with John Jacobs is an example of how close Kenny came to winning a full international honour.

In addition to holding the course record, Kenny put his name on the Peebles honours board with six successive club championship victories from 1968. In 1978 he claimed title number seven.

He has also made an off-course contribution as a member of the Peebles committee.

On his golfing exploits with the Border Golfers' Association, Kenny reflects: "A lot happened in the Borders and there was always a great camaraderie between all the players. They were great times."

Looking ahead, he would like to see closer relationships with the Lothians and some sort of sponsorship scheme for the junior players.

"It is essential that the players get around the circuit and widen their experience," he said. "It's no good just being a big fish in a small pond."

As to his own golf, he does regret that he did not try his hand on the circuit professionally.

"The surveying career came first," he admitted, "But once I had my qualifications I wish I had given it a go as a professional."



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# Club Secretaries 1993

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<i>Galashiels</i>	Bill Millar	41 Raeburn Meadow, Selkirk	Tel: 0750 21669
<i>Hawick</i>	James Reilly	10a North Bridge Street, Hawick	Tel: 0450 75594
<i>Hirsel</i>	John Balfour	West Paddock, Duns Road, Coldstream	Tel: 0890 882626
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<i>Lauder</i>	David Dickson	23 Brownsmuir Park, Lauder	Tel: 05782 526
<i>Melrose</i>	Willie MacRae	Birch House, High Street, Melrose	Tel: 089682 2391
<i>Minto</i>	Ian Todd	Overthickside, Oxnam Road, Jedburgh	Tel: 0835 62611
<i>Newcastleton</i>	Fred Ewart	10 Douglas Square, Newcastleton	Tel: 03873 75257
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<i>Selkirk</i>	Bob Davies	St Kelba, Shawpark Road, Selkirk	Tel: 0750 20427
<i>St Boswells</i>	G. B. Ovens	Ashleabank, St Boswells	Tel: 0835 22359
<i>Torwoodlee</i>	Alistair Wilson	16 Ormiston Grove, Melrose	Tel: 089682 2146



# Presidents from 1893

1893	<b>W. Rutherford</b>	Kelso	1925	<b>A. M. Johnstone</b>	Galashiels
1894	<b>W. Hume</b>	Hawick	1926	<b>Sir T. Henderson</b>	Hawick
1895	<b>J. Dickson</b>	Melrose	1927	<b>A. T. Roberts</b>	Melrose
1896	<b>D. C. Alexander</b>	Selkirk	1928	<b>J. Roberts</b>	Selkirk
1897	<b>A. Robertson</b>	Innerleithen	1929	<b>A. Middlemas</b>	Kelso
1898	<b>A. Stevenson</b>	Kelso	1930	<b>B. Barr</b>	Jedburgh
1899	<b>H. Ballantyne, Jnr.</b>	Peebles	1931	<b>D. G. Stalker</b>	Torwoodlee
1900	<b>J. Laidlaw</b>	Jedburgh	1932	<b>J. Lyon</b>	Peebles
1901	<b>H. S. Murray</b>	Galashiels	1933	<b>J. A. Deas</b>	Innerleithen
1902	<b>W. E. Ballantyne</b>	St Boswells	1934	<b>A. B. Gladstone</b>	Galashiels
1903	<b>G. H. Wilson</b>	Hawick	1935	<b>J. Jackson</b>	Hawick
1904	<b>F. Robertson</b>	Melrose	1936	<b>C. A. O. Renwick</b>	Melrose
1905	<b>Sheriff Smith</b>	Selkirk	1937	<b>J. L. Brydon</b>	Selkirk
1906	<b>J. Brown</b>	Torwoodlee	1938	<b>W. Addison</b>	Torwoodlee
1907	<b>T. D. Chrichton Smith</b>	Kelso	1939-46	<b>J. Lyons</b>	Peebles
1908	<b>Sir H. Ballantyne</b>	Peebles	1947-54	<b>W. Addison</b>	Torwoodlee
1909	<b>E. R. Richardson</b>	Jedburgh	1955-64	<b>J. Hart</b>	Melrose
1910	<b>Dr Doig</b>	Torwoodlee	1965-66	<b>T. A. Fairbairn</b>	Peebles
1911	<b>W. Hood</b>	St. Boswells	1967-68	<b>W. W. Ballantyne</b>	St Boswells
1912	<b>Capt. J. Fyfe Jamieson</b>	Hawick	1969-70	<b>T. Hunter</b>	Kelso
1913	<b>J. Simpson</b>	Melrose	1971-72	<b>J. A. Harris</b>	Melrose
1914	<b>D. C. Alexander</b>	Selkirk	1973-74	<b>R. M. Millar</b>	Galashiels
1915	<b>D. C. Alexander</b>	Selkirk	1975-76	<b>A. H. Waldie</b>	Hawick
1916	<b>D. C. Alexander</b>	Selkirk	1977-78	<b>A. Deans</b>	Hawick
1917	<b>D. C. Alexander</b>	Selkirk	1979-80	<b>G. C. Rutherford</b>	Hirsel
1918	<b>D. C. Alexander</b>	Selkirk	1981-82	<b>A. W. Baxter</b>	Lauder
1919	<b>D. C. Alexander</b>	Selkirk	1983-84	<b>G. B. Ovens</b>	St Boswells
1920	<b>T.D. Crichton Smith</b>	Kelso	1985-86	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose
1921	<b>C. S. Rennie</b>	Hawick	1987-88	<b>W. Jeffrey</b>	Galashiels
1922	<b>A. Pollock</b>	Jedburgh	1989-90	<b>J. A. Hume</b>	Selkirk
1923	<b>W. Addison</b>	Torwoodlee	1991-92	<b>A. N. Simpson</b>	Galashiels
1924	<b>J. Lyon</b>	Peebles			

# Major Trophy Winners

## *The First Trophy*

### *The Border Challenge Trophy*

This trophy was purchased prior to the Border Golfers' Association being formed by the following clubs: Hawick, Melrose, Selkirk, Innerleithen and Kelso.



The format: ten players per side, all scores counting.

One of the conditions of the Tournament was, if any club won the trophy three years in a row they would become permanent holders of this impressive shield. Selkirk Golf Club duly obliged in 1890, 1891 and 1892.

1890	Played at Hawick	Winners	Selkirk GC	Score 920
		Runners-Up	Hawick GC	Score 937
1891	Played at Innerleithen	Winners	Selkirk GC	Score 907
		Runners-Up	Innerleithen GC	Score 943
1892	Played at Melrose	Winners	Selkirk GC	Score 932
		Runners-Up	Melrose GC	Score 952

The Border Challenge Trophy was later used by Selkirk Golf Club as their Club Championship Trophy up until 1966, and is still one of their proudest possessions.

## *Border Challenge Trophy*

### *1904-1992*

This trophy replaced the original shield which was won outright by Selkirk in 1892.



1904	J. H. Ballantyne & W. Thorburn	Peebles	1907	J. Barrie & C. J. Rennie	Hawick
1905	H. M. Duncan & G. P. Ross	Hawick	1908	J. Given & J. L. Crowther	Torwoodlee
1906	W. J. Fair & A. Stavert	Selkirk	1909	J. H. Ballantyne & G. H. Ballantyne	Peebles



1910	<b>Capt. J. Fyfe Jamieson &amp; H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1937	<b>J. C. Conn &amp; J. A. Brown</b>	Hawick
1911	<b>Capt. J. Fyfe Jamieson &amp; H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1938	<b>J. C. Conn &amp; J. A. Brown</b>	Hawick
1912	<b>Capt. J. Fyfe Jamieson &amp; H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1939	<b>J. C. Conn &amp; J. A. Brown</b>	Hawick
1913	<b>R. M. Thorburn &amp; M. N. Thorburn</b>	Peebles	1940–1945	NO COMPETITION	
1914	<b>W. Addison &amp; J. Given</b>	Torwoodlee	1946	<b>R. T. Johnstone &amp; W. A. Richardson</b>	Hawick
1915–1918	NO COMPETITION		1947	<b>J. A. Fairbairn &amp; T. W. Fraser</b>	Peebles
1919	<b>H. M. Duncan &amp; J. Fraser</b>	Hawick	1948	<b>A. T. Cleghorn &amp; W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1920	<b>J. Hardy &amp; A. Hogg</b>	Selkirk	1949	<b>T. T. Sanderson &amp; T. Hopkirk</b>	Peebles
1921	<b>A. J. Roberts &amp; J. Hart</b>	Melrose	1950	<b>R. Livingstone &amp; R. R. Campbell</b>	Torwoodlee
1922	<b>W. Addison &amp; A. Brown</b>	Torwoodlee	1951	<b>C. W. Telfer &amp; W. A. Richardson</b>	Hawick
1923	<b>W. Burnet &amp; C. J. Rennie</b>	Hawick	1952	<b>T. T. Sanderson &amp; T. Hopkirk</b>	Peebles
1924	<b>C. J. Anderson &amp; A. Shiell</b>	Peebles	1953	<b>C. W. Telfer &amp; G. L. Gibson</b>	Hawick
1925	<b>C. J. Anderson &amp; A. Shiell</b>	Peebles	1954	<b>A. T. Cleghorn &amp; W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1926	<b>W. Ruickbie &amp; J. Lyon</b>	Peebles	1955	<b>A. T. Cleghorn &amp; W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1927	<b>J. Stickler &amp; J. Dyer</b>	Peebles	1956	<b>A. T. Cleghorn &amp; W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1928	<b>R. Thomson &amp; D. J. Middlemiss</b>	Hawick	1957	<b>A. H. Sanderson &amp; W. D. Simpson</b>	Torwoodlee
1929	<b>J. Stickler &amp; A. T. Kyle</b>	Peebles	1958	<b>J. D. Murray &amp; W. Graham</b>	Torwoodlee
1930	<b>J. Stickler &amp; A. T. Kyle</b>	Peebles	1959	<b>J. B. Bain &amp; J. F. Thomas</b>	Kelso
1931	<b>R. H. Winter &amp; W. Cowe</b>	Duns	1960	<b>C. W. Telfer &amp; J. McAllan</b>	Hawick
1932	<b>R. Livingstone &amp; A. B. Gladstone</b>	Galashiels	1961	<b>T. T. Sanderson &amp; G. Robertson</b>	Peebles
1933	<b>J. Stickler &amp; T. A. Fairbairn</b>	Peebles	1962	<b>J. Cockburn &amp; N. J. Scott</b>	Selkirk
1934	<b>R. Thomson &amp; J. A. Brown</b>	Hawick	1963	<b>A. Bell &amp; J. F. Thomas</b>	Kelso
1935	<b>J. C. Conn &amp; W. Burnet</b>	Hawick	1964	<b>J. Cockburn &amp; M. D. Cleghorn</b>	Selkirk
1936	<b>R. Livingstone &amp; J. Lauder</b>	Galashiels	1965	<b>T. T. Sanderson &amp; G. Robertson</b>	Peebles

1966	J. K. Wells & R. Cornwall	Peebles	1980	J. Dobson & T. Crosbie	Torwoodlee
1967	J. Cockburn & M. D. Cleghorn	Selkirk	1981	J. Hastie & A. C. Neil	Kelso
1968	J. K. Wells & R. Cornwall	Peebles	1982	K. G. Ovens & C. I Ovens	St Boswells
1969	A. Bell & J. F. Thomas	Kelso	1983	R. C. Cowe & A. C. Neil	Kelso
1970	R. W. Young & K. R. Oliver	Hawick	1984	W. Forsyth & J. Logan	Peebles
1971	J. Cockburn & M. D. Cleghorn	Selkirk	1985	K. Anderson & A. Brotherstone	Galashiels
1972	B. Reid & J. A. Hume	Selkirk	1986	R. D. Ballantyne & K. A. Scott	Selkirk
1973	R. W. Young & K. R. Oliver	Hawick	1987	K. W. Simpson & K. C. Simpson	Galashiels
1974	L. M. Wallace & R. K. Henderson	Melrose	1988	J. F. Thomas & J. Hastie	Kelso
1975	J. Cockburn & M. D. Cleghorn	Selkirk	1989	K. W. Simpson & K. C. Simpson	Galashiels
1976	K. G. Ovens & C. I. Ovens	St Boswells	1990	K. C. Simpson & K. W. Simpson	Galashiels
1977	K. G. Ovens & C. I. Ovens	St Boswells	1991	M. G. Thomson & I. Frizzel	Galashiels
1978	J. Hastie & A. C. Neil	Kelso	1992	E. Redpath D. Whillans &	Jedburgh
1979	J. Dobson & T. Crosbie	Torwoodlee			

## *Border Team Tournament*

George Wallace Memorial Trophy

Trophy presented by Mrs Nan Wallace, Melrose, 1966

### List of Winning Clubs

1964	Melrose	1974	Melrose	1984	Peebles
1965	Selkirk	1975	Peebles	1985	Melrose
1966	Kelso	1976	Peebles	1986	Hawick
1967	Peebles	1977	Hawick	1987	St Boswells
1968	Peebles	1978	Selkirk	1988	St Boswells
1969	Peebles	1979	Hawick	1989	Galashiels
1970	Melrose	1980	Galashiels	1990	Hawick
1971	Melrose	1981	Melrose	1991	Kelso
1972	Galashiels	1982	Hawick	1992	Galashiels
1973	Hawick	1983	Hawick		





# Border Championship

Trophy presented by Lt.-Col. T. G. Taylor, DSO. June 1936



## List of Winners

1893	<b>T. D. Crichton Smith</b>	Kelso	1938	<b>J. A. Brown</b>	Hawick
1894	<b>C. Todd</b>	Hawick	1939	<b>J. W. Gladstone</b>	Galashiels
1895	<b>A. Robertson</b>	Innerleithen	1940-1946 NO COMPETITION		
1896	<b>J. Hardie</b>	Selkirk	1947	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Peebles
1897	<b>W. Rutherford</b>	Jedburgh	1948	<b>T. A. Fairbairn</b>	Peebles
1898	<b>H. L. Purdom</b>	Hawick	1949	<b>W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1899	<b>W. Rutherford</b>	Jedburgh	1950	<b>T. W. Fraser</b>	Peebles
1900	<b>W. Rutherford</b>	Jedburgh	1951	<b>W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1901	<b>J. Barrie</b>	Hawick	1952	<b>W. W. Cowe</b>	Duns
1902	<b>G. P. Ross</b>	Hawick	1953	<b>R. Livingstone</b>	Torwoodlee
1903	<b>J. Barrie</b>	Hawick	1954	<b>W. W. Cowe</b>	Duns
1904	<b>H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1955	<b>C. W. Telfer</b>	Hawick
1905	<b>T. Ballantyne</b>	Peebles	1956	<b>C. W. Telfer</b>	Hawick
1906	<b>H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1957	<b>W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1907	<b>H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1958	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Peebles
1908	<b>T. Ballantyne</b>	Peebles	1959	<b>J. A. Brown</b>	Torwoodlee
1909	<b>H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1960	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Peebles
1910	<b>H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1961	<b>W. I. Turnbull</b>	Innerleithen
1911	<b>A. Elder</b>	Hawick	1962	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Peebles
1912	<b>R. J. Inglis</b>	Peebles	1963	<b>W. D. Smith</b>	Selkirk
1913	<b>H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1964	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Peebles
1914-1919 NO COMPETITION					
1920	<b>H. M. Duncan</b>	Hawick	1965	<b>J. F. Thomas</b>	Kelso
1921	<b>W. R. Welsh</b>	Galashiels	1966	<b>J. K. Wells</b>	Peebles
1922	<b>C. S. Rennie</b>	Hawick	1967	<b>R. L. McAllan</b>	Hawick
1923	<b>W. Burnet</b>	Hawick	1968	<b>J. F. Thomas</b>	Kelso
1924	<b>C. J. Anderson</b>	Peebles	1969	<b>J. K. Wells</b>	Peebles
1925	<b>W. Burnet</b>	Hawick	1970	<b>J. K. Wells</b>	Peebles
1926	<b>W. Burnet</b>	Hawick	1971	<b>W. D. Simpson</b>	Hawick
1927	<b>R. Thomson</b>	Hawick	1972	<b>A. R. Potts</b>	Hawick
1928	<b>W. R. Welsh</b>	Torwoodlee	1973	<b>K. Allan</b>	Peebles
1929	<b>A. T. Kyle</b>	Peebles	1974	<b>J. K. Wells</b>	Peebles
1930	<b>A. T. Kyle</b>	Peebles	1975	<b>M. D. Cleghorn</b>	Selkirk
1931	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Innerleithen	1976	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose
1932	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Innerleithen	1977	<b>J. A. Hume</b>	Selkirk
1933	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Innerleithen	1978	<b>P. W. J. Gallagher</b>	Peebles
1934	<b>A. T. Cleghorn</b>	Selkirk	1979	<b>P. W. J. Gallagher</b>	Peebles
1935	<b>J. Cameron Conn</b>	Hawick	1980	<b>P. W. J. Gallagher</b>	Peebles
1936	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Innerleithen	1981	<b>P. W. J. Gallagher</b>	Peebles
1937	<b>J. A. Brown</b>	Hawick	1982	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose
			1983	<b>B. Reid</b>	Selkirk

1984	<b>A. Turnbull</b>	Peebles	1989	<b>A. Turnbull</b>	Peebles
1985	<b>L. M. Wallace</b>	Melrose	1990	<b>M. G. Thomson</b>	Melrose
1986	<b>R. D. Ballantyne</b>	Selkirk	1991	<b>A. Turnbull</b>	Peebles
1987	<b>C. I. Ovens</b>	St Boswells	1992	<b>M. G. Thomson</b>	Melrose
1988	<b>W. J. Renwick</b>	Hawick			

## *Border Boys' Championship*

### List of Winners

1952	<b>E. Robertson</b>	Hawick	1956	<b>I. Colville</b>	Torwoodlee
1953	<b>D. Lawrie</b>	Melrose	1957	<b>R. Mack</b>	Torwoodlee
1954	<b>J. Wood</b>	Melrose	1958	<b>A. Campbell</b>	Melrose
1955	<b>J. Wood</b>	Melrose	1959	<b>NO COMPETITION</b>	

## *Border Boys' Championship - The Hart Cup*

In 1960, Mr John Hart, BGA President, presented the BGA with the trophy.



1960	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose	1977	<b>G. R. Renton</b>	Galashiels
1961	<b>D. W. S. Telfer</b>	Hawick	1978	<b>K. Whitson</b>	Kelso
1962	<b>L. M. Wallace</b>	Melrose	1979	<b>T. S. McCaig</b>	Torwoodlee
1963	<b>D. Millar</b>	Galashiels	1980	<b>A. W. Reid</b>	Kelso
1964	<b>J. Nichol</b>	Peebles	1981	<b>R. D. Ballantyne</b>	Selkirk
1965	<b>W. J. Taylor</b>	Galashiels	1982	<b>E. Redpath</b>	Jedburgh
1966	<b>A. J. Waddell</b>	Galashiels	1983	<b>R. S. McGrail</b>	Galashiels
1967	<b>S. Chalmers</b>	Torwoodlee	1984	<b>M. Browne</b>	Jedburgh
1968	<b>J. T. Martin</b>	Hirsel	1985	<b>E. Dougal</b>	Eyemouth
1969	<b>J. C. Easton</b>	Galashiels	1986	<b>I. Sinclair</b>	Minto
1970	<b>R. Tait</b>	Hirsel	1987	<b>E. Dougal</b>	Eyemouth
1971	<b>J. D. Clark</b>	Kelso	1988	<b>M. Robbie</b>	Melrose
1972	<b>G. D. Watson</b>	Torwoodlee	1989	<b>A. Chalmers</b>	Hawick
1973	<b>D. Symington</b>	Galashiels	1990	<b>C. Dun</b>	Torwoodlee
1974	<b>A. Stevenson</b>	Kelso	1991	<b>G. Davidson</b>	Langholm
1975	<b>A. J. McDonald</b>	Lauder	1992	<b>G. Hill</b>	Galashiels
1976	<b>J. Frater</b>	Melrose			



## *Border Youth Championship*

The Sneddon Trophy presented by Sneddon Ltd.

### List of Winners

1976	<b>P. W. J. Gallagher</b>	Peebles	1985	<b>J. Browne</b>	Jedburgh
1977	<b>J. D. Gardiner</b>	Hirsel	1986	<b>I. Sinclair</b>	Minto
1978	<b>A. J. McDonald</b>	Lauder	1987	<b>J. Patterson</b>	Eyemouth
1979	<b>I. Ford</b>	Kelso	1988	<b>K. W. Simpson</b>	Galashiels
1980	<b>R. C. Cockburn</b>	Galashiels	1989	<b>J. Patterson</b>	Eyemouth
1981	<b>R. D. Ballantyne</b>	Selkirk	1990	<b>B. Kettle</b>	Galashiels
1982	<b>R. D. Ballantyne</b>	Selkirk	1991	<b>P. Peyton</b>	Galashiels
1983	<b>R. M. Tait</b>	Selkirk	1992	<b>B. Kettle</b>	Galashiels
1984	<b>R. D. Ballantyne</b>	Selkirk			



## *Border Champion of Champions Tournament*

Trophy presented by Mr W. Erskine of Kelso in 1966

### List of Winners

1966	<b>A. Bell</b>	Kelso	1980	<b>K. G. Ovens</b>	St Boswells
1967	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose	1981	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose
1968	<b>T. T. Sanderson</b>	Peebles	1982	<b>J. A. Hume</b>	Selkirk
1969	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose	1983	<b>K. G. Ovens</b>	St Boswells
1970	<b>E. R. Massie</b>	Duns	1984	<b>G. A. Phimister</b>	Galashiels
1971	<b>R. Livingstone</b>	Torwoodlee	1985	<b>K. A. Scott</b>	Selkirk
1972	<b>J. K. Wells</b>	Peebles	1986	<b>A. J. Ballantyne</b>	Hawick
1973	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose	1987	<b>J. Blackie</b>	Eyemouth
1974	<b>D. F. Campbell</b>	Melrose	1988	<b>R. D. Ballantyne</b>	Selkirk
1975	<b>M. D. Cleghorn</b>	Torwoodlee	1989	<b>I. Ford</b>	Kelso
1976	<b>P. W. J. Gallagher</b>	Peebles	1990	<b>C. I. Ovens</b>	St Boswells
1977	<b>I. Oliver</b>	Hawick	1991	<b>K. C. Simpson</b>	Galashiels
1978	<b>A. J. McDonald</b>	Lauder	1992	<b>R. C. Cowe</b>	Kelso
1979	<b>J. K. Wells</b>	Peebles			



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# Fixture List

## 1993

*\*Denotes Order of Merit Tournament*

### *March*

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Sunday 21st	Centenary Opening	Kelso
Sunday 28th	Borders v Fife	Duns

### *April*

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Saturday 3rd	BGA Youths' Championship	St Boswells
Sunday 4th	BGA Spring Competition 1st Class	Duns*
	2nd Class	Innerleithen
	3rd Class	Selkirk
Saturday 10th	Champion of Champions	Melrose
Saturday 10th	Boys' Champion of Champions	Melrose
Sunday 11th	Champion of Champions	Melrose
Sunday 11th	Boys' Champion of Champions	Melrose
Sunday 18th	Borders v South	Melrose
Sunday 18th	Open Mixed Foursomes	Torwoodlee
Saturday 24th	South East District Council Match	Duddingston
Sunday 25th	South East District Team Match	Duddingston

### *May*

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Sunday 2nd	BGA Team Tournament	Eyemouth
Sunday 2nd	Melrose B Team Tournament	Melrose
Sunday 9th	Royal British Legion Tournament	Kelso
Sunday 9th	Borders v Lothians	Minto
Sunday 16th	Kelso Open 36-Hole 0-10	Kelso*
Sunday 23rd	Scottish Area Team Championship	Peebles
Sunday 23rd	Hawick B Class Open	Hawick
Saturday 29th	Border Championship	Galashiels*
Sunday 30th	Peebles Open Mixed Foursomes	Peebles
Sunday 30th	Border Championship	Galashiels
Sunday 30th	Open Amateur Tournament Tri-Am	Jedburgh

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## June

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Saturday 5th	Hay Trophy Handicap Open	Duns
Sunday 6th	A. T. Kyle Trophy 36-Hole 0-7	Peebles*
Saturday 12th	Open Amateur Tournament Tele Cup	Galashiels
Sunday 13th	BGA Summer Competition 1st Class	Hirsel*
	2nd Class	Langholm
	3rd Class	Newcastleton
Sunday 20th	BGA Centenary Texas Scramble	Hawick
Saturday 26th	Kelso Open Tournament Handicap 6-24	Kelso
Sunday 27th	BGA Seniors' Tournament	Torwoodlee

## July

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Saturday 3rd	Open Amateur Tournament B Class	Selkirk
Sunday 4th	Open Amateur Tournament	Peebles
Sunday 11th	Open Mixed Foursomes	Selkirk
Sunday 18th	BGA NGT Q-AM	Minto
Sunday 25th	Open Mixed Foursomes	Duns
Saturday 31st	Open Amateur Tournament	Eyemouth
Saturday 31st	Open Amateur Tournament	Hirsel

## August

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Sunday 1st	BGA McMillan Cancer Relief Trophy	Hirsel*
Saturday 7th	Open Mixed Foursomes	Minto
Sunday 8th	BGA Foursome Competition	Kelso
Saturday 14th	Open Mixed Foursomes	Melrose
Sunday 15th	Open Mixed Tournament	Innerleithen
Sunday 15th	BGA Autumn Competition 1st Class	Lauder*
	2nd Class	Melrose
	3rd Class	Jedburgh
Sunday 15th	Open Amateur Tournament	Langholm
Saturday 21st	Open Amateur Tournament	Torwoodlee
Sunday 22nd	Open Amateur Tournament 3-Man Team	Minto
	BGA Exhibition Match	Hawick
Saturday 28th	Open Mixed Foursomes	Kelso
Sunday 29th	Open Amateur Tournament A Class	Hawick*

## September

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Saturday 4th	Open Mixed Foursomes	Hirsel
Saturday 4th	South East District Championship	Bathgate
Sunday 5th	South East District Championship	Bathgate
Sunday 5th	T. T. Sanderson Memorial Trophy	Peebles
Saturday 11th	BGA Challenge Trophy	Peebles
Sunday 12th	Open Amateur Tournament	Galashiels*
Saturday 18th	BGA Challenge Trophy	Peebles
Sunday 19th	BGA Challenge Trophy	Peebles

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# Best wishes from Aldus UK

*Aldus UK Limited is pleased to  
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# BGA Events Only

## March

Sunday 21st	Centenary Opening	Kelso
Sunday 28th	Borders v Fife	Duns

## April

Saturday 3rd	BGA Youths' Championship	St Boswells
Sunday 4th	BGA Spring Competition	Duns
	1st Class	Innerleithen
	2nd Class	Selkirk
	3rd Class	Melrose
Saturday 10th	Champion of Champions	Melrose
Sunday 11th	Champion of Champions	Melrose
Sunday 18th	Borders v South	Melrose

## May

Sunday 2nd	BGA Team Tournament	Eymouth
Sunday 9th	Borders v Lothians	Minto
Sunday 23rd	Scottish Area Team Championship	Peebles
Saturday 29th	Border Championship	Galashiels
Sunday 30th	Border Championship	Galashiels

## June

Sunday 13th	BGA Summer Competition	1st Class 2nd Class 3rd Class	Hirsel Langholm Newcastleton
Sunday 20th	BGA Centenary Texas Scramble		Hawick
Sunday 27th	BGA Seniors' Tournament		Torwoodlee

## July

Sunday 18th	BGA NGT Q-AM	Minto
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## August

Sunday 1st	BGA McMillan Cancer Relief Trophy	Hirsel*
Sunday 8th	BGA Foursome Competition	Kelso
Sunday 15th	BGA Autumn Competition	1st Class 2nd Class 3rd Class
		Lauder* Melrose Jedburgh
Sunday 22nd	BGA Exhibition Match	Hawick

## September

Saturday 11th	BGA Challenge Trophy	Peebles
Saturday 18th	BGA Challenge Trophy	Peebles
Sunday 19th	BGA Challenge Trophy	Peebles

## October

Friday 1st	Centenary Presentation of Prizes Regional Headquarters Function Room, Newtown St Boswells	
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## November

Sunday 7th	Centenary Dinner (Dress Formal)	Peebles Hydro
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# The Future

The first hundred years of the Borders Golfers' Association has come and gone. But what evolutions will have taken place before the BGA celebrates its bi-centenary in 2093? Alex Cleghorn and George Ovens, a pair who have contributed so much to the well-being of the BGA in recent times, take a look ahead.



*Alex Cleghorn and George Ovens*

Alex Cleghorn and George Ovens, two men who have done so much to shape Borders golf development over the past 40 years, share a similar, and optimistic, view of the future.

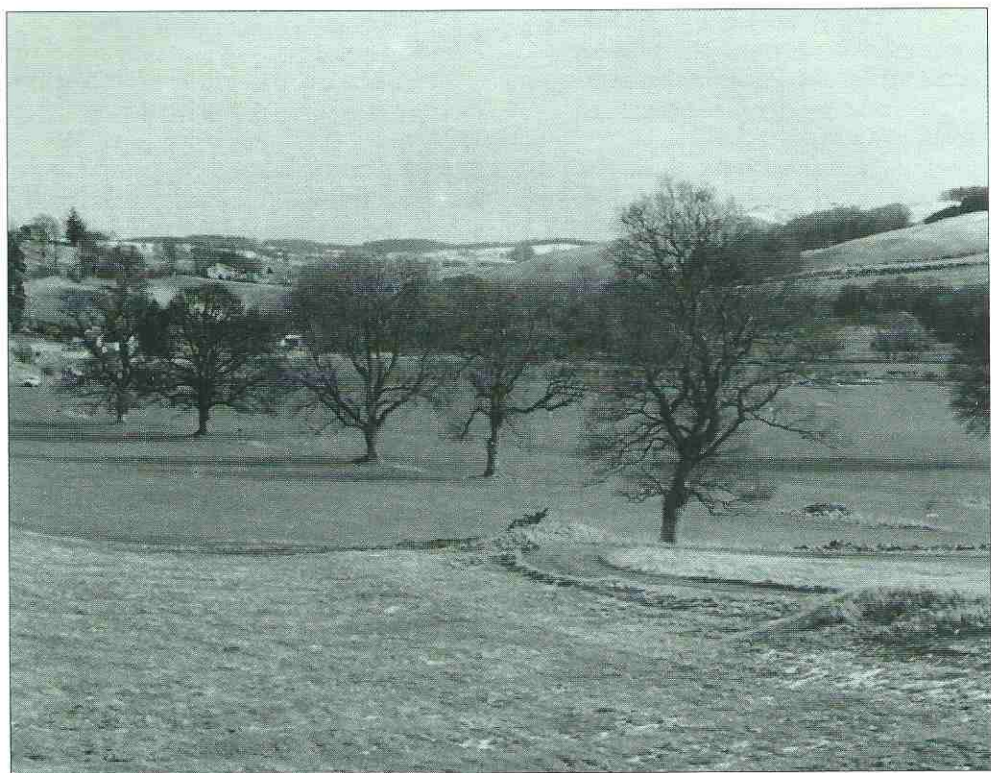
They both agree that one of the areas most pressing needs is a good, long 18 hole course. And, as a fitting start to the Border Golfers' Association's centenary year, their prayers are about to be answered.

With Alex acting as designer and supervisor, a development on the Woll Estate at Ashkirk, between Selkirk and Hawick, is rapidly taking shape.

The first phase of nine holes will be ready for play in 1993, but the ultimate aim is to complete a par 72, 6,500 yards 18 hole lay-out.

Isobel Amos, owner of the Woll Estate, is the woman behind the plan. Alex, who, over the years, has used the land as his practice ground for teaching promising junior golfers, said: "I have been involved in the construction of the course for the past three years, and it is certainly an exciting project."





*The 'Woll' Golf Course, Ashkirk.*

"The first nine holes are complete, and it is now a case of continuing towards the development of the full 18 holes. When it is finished, the course will be able to be enjoyed by everyone. From the back tees it will be over 6,500 yards in length, and a testing par 72. But tourists and the ladies will also be able to enjoy the challenge from more forward tees."

George is equally excited by the Ashkirk development. "It has the potential to be a top-class course and is just what the Borders need as we head towards the next century."

Looking to the future, George stated: "The outlook for Border golfers over the next decade is very promising. The demand for golf is increasing, by about 4% annually, and the Ashkirk development plus the recent and projected extensions of

many of the courses to 18 holes should go some way to fulfilling the extra needs. By the turn of the century, it is likely that another new 18 hole course will be desirable."

Over the years, George and Alex have done much to boost Boys' golf both in the Border area and, via their connections with the Scottish Golf Union, throughout Scotland.

Through the pair's interest and dedication, a steady flow of internationalists have emerged from the Borders.

Part of George's vision for the future is to set-up a Border coaching scheme that reflects the SGU's national programme.

"If we developed a sound, squad training scheme along national level lines I am sure that the overall standard would improve greatly," he said.

Ideally, he envisages a situation where the clubs look after the beginners, before the Border Golfers' Association takes over to mould the progress of the most promising youngsters.

"There should be around two squads of ten for the 12-15 years-olds, and then one squad for those up to 18," continued George, who has served as Captain of the Scottish Boys' team, and guided them to great success in Europe, since 1987.

In addition to conventional coaching - swing technique - George also emphasises that sports psychology, and understanding the part played by diet and overall fitness are an essential part of the modern day golf training programme.

In the past, a lack of practice facilities has been a drawback for Border youngsters. But the recent establishment of driving ranges at Langshaw, near Galashiels, and at Jedburgh, has helped the situation. A number of clubs are also opening up new practice grounds.

As leading players in their hey-day, George and Alex reflected that huge changes that have occurred in the amateur game over the ensuing years.

The full-time amateur golfer is a modern phenomenon, and one which has led to a significant reduction in the average age of senior teams. It is now not unusual for boy golfers to also be competing at the highest level in youth and senior international events.

Scots Stephen Dundas and Stephen Gallacher are a case in point. In 1992, Dundas won the British Amateur Championships and Gallacher won the Scottish equivalent. Both were still teenagers.

Another relatively recent development is youngsters going off to America on golf scholarships. Langholm's Graham Davidson, a Scottish Boy internationalist, started the BGA's centenary year as the latest Scot to continue his

amateur progress at University in the States.

The University bursary programme has also started to develop on this side of the Atlantic. Graeme Matthew, the 1985 Scottish Boys' Strokeplay Champion from Melrose, completed his education as a golf scholarship at Stirling University.

George and Alex both agreed that the days of the 35 year-old top-class amateur could be numbered. "It is certainly more difficult for the more mature players to find the time needed to compete at the top. With family and career responsibilities they have too many conflicting pressures," observed George.

While rugby remains the Borders number one sport, golf is not far behind. And Alex is encouraged by the enthusiasm which greets his various Border schools' coaching clinics.

"At club level, the Boys' convener is the most important person," he commented. "We must encourage the juniors, and give them a good grounding, if the sport is to continue to progress in the Borders."

George and Alex have both made an enormous contribution to the fortunes and progress of the Border Golfers' Association through its first 100 years. Their hard work and devotion is also certain to play a major part in shaping the sport's development into the next century.

At the start of the Border Golfers' Association centenary year, it is pleasing, therefore, to hear them echo the sentiment that Border golf is in a very health position.

Let's hope it continues to stay that way throughout the BGA's next 100 years - and well beyond.

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Designed and Edited by Lewis Design,  
Galashiels, Scotland.

Printed and Produced by Buccleuch Printers,  
Hawick, Scotland.